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United States Department of Agriculture, Extension Service and
Agricultural Adjustment Administration, Cooperating
Washington, D. C.

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 649
(Western Region)

JUN 2 0
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

FLAX GROWERS TO GET SPECIAL SOIL PAYMENTS

Flax growers in _____ County may earn flax payments under the 1936 Agricultural Conservation Program without making any reduction in their normal flax acreage, County Agent _____ says.

Special provisions have been adopted for flax because this is a deficiency crop and there is no intention of discouraging its production. The principal requirement for flax payments is that the farmer have a "companion" acreage of soil-conserving crops equal to at least one-fifth of his flax acreage. For example, a producer with 25 acres in flax would need to show 5 acres in soil-conserving crops in order to get the payments.

The flax payment will be 20 cents a bushel on the normal yield of each farmer's acreage allotment. The acreage allotment will be the acreage the farmer plants, if the total acreage planted by all farmers does not exceed the total estimated as necessary, at normal yields, to produce 19 million bushels of flax. If the total acreage for the country is larger than that estimated as necessary to produce 19 million bushels, at normal yields, each farmer's acreage allotment will be his pro-rata share of the acreage estimated necessary to produce 19 million bushels.

In order to receive the full payment on his flax, a farmer will need his "companion" acreage in soil-conserving crops equal to 20 percent of his flax acreage, and in addition he would need to have at least 15 percent as much acreage in soil-conserving crops as there was acreage in his general soil-depleting base. If he had less than this his payments would be subject to deductions.

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465-36 (5-21-36)

United States Department of Agriculture, Extension Service and
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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 650
(Western Region)

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JUN 2

COUNTY AGENT
EXPLAINS NEW
AAA PAYMENTS

_____ County farmers cooperating in the 1936 Agricultural Conservation Program will receive the rate per acre as established for their farms, for diverting acreage to soil-conserving crops and for soil-building practices, provided the general totals of their soil-depleting and soil-conserving acreages meet certain standards, County Agent _____ says.

If farmers have less than specified acreages in soil-conserving crops, or if they plant more soil-depleting crops than they had in their soil-depleting base acreages, their total payments will be subject to deductions.

The reason that there are deductions is that underplantings of soil-conserving crops or over-plantings of soil-depleting crops would defeat the purpose of the program. There is no control of what farmers may plant, but if they under-plant soil-conserving crops or over-plant soil-depleting crops, they cannot expect to receive full payments.

Deductions for having less than the specified acreages of soil-conserving crops on the farm will be computed at $1\frac{1}{2}$ times the soil-conserving payment for the farm, times the number of acres the soil-conserving acreage is below the specified amount.

The deductions for over-planting soil-depleting crops will be the number of acres over-planted times the per-acre rate for the farm.

If a farmer needed 20 acres of soil-conserving crops to qualify for full payment, but had only 18 acres, and the per-acre rate for his farm was $8 an acre, the total payments, which he would otherwise have received, would be subject

466-36

(more)

to a deduction of 2 acres times $12 ($1\frac{1}{2}$ times the acre rate), or $24.

If his soil-depleting base was 100 acres and he planted 102 acres, and if the per-acre rate was $8, the payments which he would otherwise have received would be reduced by 2 times $8, or $16.

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 651
(East Central Region)

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AGRICULTURE

PEANUT DIVERSION OFFER TO FARMERS RUNS TO JUNE 20

An open offer by the Secretary of Agriculture to make payments to peanut growers for the diversion of peanuts into oil has been extended to June 20, 1936, _____ _____,
(County agent or State extension official)
announced today.

The rate of diversion payment is $21 a ton for Virginia type, $11 a ton for Spanish type, and $3 a ton for Runner type peanuts.

The offer became effective March 25, 1936, and previously had been extended to May 20, 1936. Since all peanuts diverted under the offer are required to be crushed on or before June 30, 1936, the final date for the sale of peanuts under the offer has been set as June 20.

The purpose of the peanut diversion program is to remove surplus peanuts from the normal channels of trade and divert them into the manufacture of peanut oil.

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537-36 (5-28-36)

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 652
(Northeast Region)

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AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

CAN EARN PAYMENT
BY IMPROVING HAY
AND PASTURE LAND

_____ County farmers are showing interest in that part of the Agricultural Conservation Program which provides for payments for improving hay and pasture land and orchard sod, _____ _____, county agent (or committeeman) says.

"Liming and adding other fertilizers to land in established grasses and legumes", Mr. _____ says, "is a practice which is needed on many farms in the county, and one which can be used at almost any time. The State Committee has provided for a variety of treatments, so that each farmer may choose the one which suits his land and his pocketbook best. The payments that will be made under the 1936 program will return much of the outlay to the farmer later in the year."

Mr. _____ said that Northeast Region Bulletin 2 gives the details of the practices approved for _____, and the rates of payment for each
(State)
of those practices. He added that farmers who did not have copies of that bulletin could get them from the county agent's office or from local committeemen.

The payments which farmers may earn for improving their grasses and legumes are among the Class II, or soil-building, payments provided for in the Agricultural Conservation Program for 1936. Farmers also may qualify for Class I, or soil-conserving, payments if they divert some of their acreage from soil-depleting crops to soil-conserving crops.

Mr. _____ pointed out that farmers who want to qualify for either class of payment, or for both classes need to fill out work sheets as the first step toward receiving payment.

532-36 (5-28-36) # # #

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 653
(Northeast Region)

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AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

ORCHARD LAND
INCLUDED IN
SOIL PROGRAM

Fruit growers are in a position to earn payments under the Agricultural Conservation Program, _____ _____, chairman of the _____ County committee, says. Operators of orchards and vineyards, he points out, have found that the program is adapted to their special needs, and that they are eligible for both soil-building and soil-conserving payments.

"Land in orchards and vineyards", Mr. _____ says, "is defined as cropland for the purposes of the program. If such land is clean cultivated, it is classified as neutral. But if the land is interplanted with a soil-depleting crop the actual acreage interplanted is classified as soil-depleting; and if it is interplanted with a soil-conserving crop, it is classified as soil-conserving.

"Therefore a farmer could qualify for Class I, or soil-conserving, payments if he diverted some of his interplanted acreage from soil-depleting to soil-conserving crops. There is specific provision, too, for a soil-building payment for improving orchard sod."

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533-36 (5-28-36)

United States Department of Agriculture, Extension Service and
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RELEASE: Immediate
DISTRIBUTION: EXCLUSIVE TO State extension editors. Suggested Q and A series which could be run boxed as a weekly feature, five questions per issue.

WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 654
(Northeast Region)

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JUN 26
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

COUNTY CHAIRMAN ANSWERS QUERIES ON FARM PROGRAM

_____ ___ _____, chairman of the _____ _____ County Agricultural Conservation Committee, reports more questions which farmers have been asking about the program, and lists the correct answers.

1. Q. Suppose I operate two farms, can I fill out a work sheet for just one of them and be eligible for payments if I measure up to the standards of the program on that one farm?

   A. No. Each farmer who wants to qualify for payments needs to file work sheets covering all the land he operates or owns in the county.

2. Q. I operate a farm on shares; do I fill out the work sheet, or does the owner?

   A. Either of you may fill out a work sheet, or both of you may sign the same work sheet.

3. Q. Suppose I used approved soil-building practices, or planted some of my soil-depleting acreage to soil-conserving crops early this spring before the program was announced; can I fill out a work sheet now and qualify for payments?

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(more)

A. Yes.

4. Q. I have learned the State Committee's requirements for the number of trees per acre that would qualify me for payment for planting forest trees; suppose I plant half that number of trees on each acre; can I get half of the rate of payment per acre?

A. No. The requirements for a soil-building practice are the minimum requirements for any payment at all.

5. Q. Suppose I plowed down a green-manure crop this spring and followed it with corn; would that field count in my soil-conserving acreage?

A. No; but you would be eligible for soil-building payment for plowing down the green-manure crop.

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 655
(General Story)

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AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

CITRUS GROWERS ADOPT MARKETING PLAN FOR CROPS

The marketing of crops far greater than those produced before the depression has been the outstanding problem confronting producers of citrus fruit in all areas during recent years.

With the recent adoption of a marketing agreement program by the Florida citrus industry and with the marketing agreement program for oranges and grapefruit grown in California and Arizona, which has been in effect since January 1934, the movement to market of more than 95 percent of the United States production of oranges and grapefruit combined will be subject to shipment regulatory measures designed to improve prices and returns to producers.

Both programs provide methods of accomplishing an orderly week-to-week movement of fruit to market in order that alternate periods of market gluts and shortages may be eliminated. This will serve to stabilize market conditions and adjust the total movement of fruit during each period in order to maintain a more favorable level of prices than would otherwise prevail. The marketing agreement and order for Florida citrus fruit, in addition, provides for regulating the shipment of certain grades and sizes in the event such grades and sizes result in losses to growers or unduly depress the level of prices of all fruit.

United States production of oranges and grapefruit, increasing steadily during the past 15 years, is in direct contrast to the production which has prevailed for other fruits. With reduced consumer income, large crops have had

535-36

(more)

an adverse influence on returns to citrus producers in all areas.

The price and returns which producers receive for a given crop depend on the nature of the consumer demand for the commodity and the charges which are incurred in preparing the commodity for market and placing it in the hands of consumers. The demand for citrus fruit is such that after deducting all the harvesting, packing, transportation, and selling charges from terminal market prices, growers receive not only lower prices but a smaller total return for a large volume marketed than for a smaller volume.

Faced with even larger crops to market in the future, the citrus producers in California-Arizona and Florida have come to realize that control of the volume of fruit marketed is essential, if they are to be assured of fair prices and returns for their products.

Under a marketing agreement program, the volume marketed can be adjusted to the advantage of growers by assuring all parties an equitable share of the supplies permitted to move to market. Thus, the competition among growers to sell, which depresses prices and returns received by growers, is minimized.

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 656
(Northeast Region)

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AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FARMERS CHOOSE PRACTICES THAT BEST FIT FARMS

_____ County farmers who are taking part in the 1936 Agricultural Conservation Program have found that they can qualify for Class II payments by choosing soil-building practices that are especially suited to their farms, _____ _____, county agent (or committeeman) says.

"Farmers who have studied the program", he reports, "have discovered that the provisions for Class II, or soil-building, payments offer financial aid in carrying out good farming methods fitted to their farms; rather than require farmers to follow any hard and fast rule.

"A review of that part of the program shows why that is true. We can start with the soil-building allowance, which is the largest sum any farmer can earn for soil-building practices this year. That allowance is a sum equal to $1 for every acre on the farm in soil-conserving crops in 1936.

"Suppose a man has fifty acres in such soil-conserving crops. His soil-building allowance would be $50. He may earn up to that sum by using one or more of the State's approved soil-building practices. If he wants to improve pasture he may pick from the alternate treatments which are provided, and earn the whole amount of his allowance by improving pasture. If he wants to establish new seedings of grasses and legumes, he may earn the full amount of his allowance by picking some of the treatments for establishing such seedings. If he wants both to improve pasture and to establish new seedings, he may earn

(more)

559-36

part of his allowance by one practice, and part by the other. Or if he wishes, he may use others of the practices which are provided."

The wide variety of approved practices makes it possible for each farmer to select one or more practices which when carried out on his farm will represent real progress in agricultural conservation and a sound investment for the farmer.

Mr. _____ advises farmers to talk over the possibilities of the program with their local committeeman, if they have not done so already.

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 657
(Southern Region)

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HUMAN EFFECTS OF PROGRAM ARE VITAL, SAYS COBB

The human effects of the Agricultural Conservation Program are more vital than the conservation of land, according to Cully A. Cobb, director of the Program for the Southern Region.

In discussing the purposes of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, Cobb said the accomplishment of those purposes would mean improved income to farmers of the South. "We are working not merely with land; we are working with people who live on the land and who get their income from it."

Cobb pointed out that conserving and building land rather than robbing it and destroying it would lead to "the balanced type of farming we have talked about so long." Other long-time effects of such a program would be improved living conditions on the farm, improved schools, improved churches, and improved and better communities in which to live, he said.

"Farmers must at no time lose sight of the public or national welfare", Cobb said. "In carrying out the provisions of the Agricultural Conservation Program, agriculture is contributing to the interest of national welfare. If we are to have a balanced abundance of food and fibers in the future, we must conserve our soil resources", Cobb said.

# # #

564-36 (6-3-36)

JUN 2
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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 658
(East Central Region)

CLASS I PAYMENT VARIES WITH THE SOIL'S FERTILITY

The attention of _____ County farmers is called to the fact that
(County)
the recent announcement of the county average rate of the Class I or soil-conserving payment does not mean that this is the rate of payment for each farm in the county, _____ pointed
(County agent or State extension official)
out today.

As has been pointed out previously, the average rate for the county for the diversion of acreage from the general soil-depleting base to soil-conserving crops under the 1936 Agricultural Conservation Program is $_____ an acre. Mr._____ explained that the above figure represents only the average rate of Class I payment for all farms in the county and that the rate for individual farms may be higher or lower, depending upon the productivity of the soil or the yields of crops.

That is, if the land on the farm is more productive than the average in the county, as measured by the yields of principal soil-depleting crops (other than cotton, tobacco, and peanuts), the rate of payment for the farm will be above the county average rate. On the other hand, if the productivity of the farm is below the average of the county, the rate for the farm will be below the county average rate.

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 659
(Burley)

JUN 2 6
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFER TO REDEEM TOBACCO WARRANTS MADE BY WALLACE

Secretary Wallace has made an offer to redeem tobacco tax-payment warrants issued to any producer who signed a tobacco production adjustment contract and who received such warrants after the sale of his tobacco and after payment of the tax imposed by the Kerr Tobacco Act,

_____, announced today.
(County agent or State extension official)

This offer applies to contracting producers of Burley, flue-cured, fire-cured, dark air-cured, and cigar-leaf tobacco.

Contracting producers holding warrants that are eligible for redemption are advised to file applications immediately with the Tobacco Section of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, Washington, D. C. The funds appropriated for the redemption of these warrants are available only until September 1, 1936, and no checks can be issued after that date.

Forms to be used by contracting producers in filing their applications for the redemption of these warrants, together with the regulations governing such redemptions are available at the county agent's office.

Only warrants issued to producers who signed tobacco production adjustment contracts are eligible to be redeemed. Warrants issued to producers who did not sign contracts cannot be redeemed, and no applications for the redemption of such warrants can be accepted.

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578-36 (6-4-36)

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 660
(Cigar-leaf)

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AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFER TO REDEEM TOBACCO WARRANTS MADE BY WALLACE

Secretary Wallace has made an offer to redeem tobacco tax-payment warrants issued to any producer who signed a tobacco production adjustment contract and who received such warrants after the sale of his tobacco and after payment of the tax imposed by the Kerr Tobacco Act,

_____, announced today.
(District tobacco agent)

This offer applies to contracting producers of Burley, flue-cured, fire-cured, dark air-cured, and cigar-leaf tobacco.

Contracting producers holding warrants that are eligible for redemption are advised to file applications immediately with the Tobacco Section of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, Washington, D. C. The funds appropriated for the redemption of these warrants are available only until September 1, 1936, and no checks can be issued after that date.

Forms to be used by contracting producers in filing their applications for the redemption of these warrants, together with the regulations governing such redemptions are available at the district tobacco agent's office.

Only warrants issued to producers who signed tobacco production adjustment contracts are eligible to be redeemed. Warrants issued to producers who did not sign contracts cannot be redeemed, and no applications for the redemption of such warrants can be accepted.

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579-36 (6-4-36)

United States Department of Agriculture, Extension Service and
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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 661
(Northeast Region)

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

COUNTY CHAIRMAN ANSWERS QUERIES ON FARM PROGRAM

_____ _____, chairman of the _____ County Agricultural Conservation Committee, reports more questions which farmers have been asking about the program, and lists the correct answers.

1. Q. If I measure up to the standards of the program, when will I get my payments?

   A. As soon as local and State committees have determined that you have completed all the operations needed to meet the standards of the program and that there is no opportunity for you to plant any more soil-depleting crops for harvest this year, they will report that to the AAA; and the work of actually drawing up and sending out your check will begin.

2. Q. Will I receive payments for my acres of pasture and hayland if I do <u>not</u> carry out any of the approved soil-building practices?

   A. No. Acres in soil-conserving crops only determine the allowance which you may earn. You must use approved practices in order to get a soil-building payment.

(more)

581-36

3. Q. Do I have to carry out the approved practices in the spring or early summer in order to qualify for soil-building payments this year?

   A. No. Many of the practices listed in Northeast Region Bulletin 2 may be carried out during all the summer or in the fall.

4. Q. Is permanent pasture (from which no crop has been harvested since January 1, 1930) planted to forest trees in 1936 classified as soil-conserving?

   A. No. Permanent pasture is not classified as cropland. But you can receive a soil-building payment for planting forest trees on permanent pasture as well as on cropland.

5. Q. What is the purpose of column E on the work sheet (the column which lists adjusted acreage)?

   A. To provide a place to enter the fair acreage figures for farmers whose 1935 harvested acreage was not normal. In cases where weather or certain other unusual factors prevented usual harvestings, the county committee will adjust the 1935 figures, and put those adjusted figures in column E. The chief benefit will be to give all farmers equitable soil-depleting base acreages.

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 662
(Northeast Region)

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AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

COUNTY AVERAGE PAYMENTS BASED ON PRODUCTIVITY

The county average rates of the payments which will be made to farmers for diverting some of their acreage from soil-depleting crops to soil-conserving crops were based on a careful study of the productivity of farm land, according to _____ _____, county agent (or committeeman).

Commenting on the way the _____ County rate compares with the rates of adjoining counties, Mr. _____ said that the rates were based on the acreage and yield figures of the principal soil-depleting crops during the 10-year period from 1923 to 1932. The _____ County rate is $___ an acre. (Rates for adjoining counties may be inserted.)

Mr. _____ points out that this rate is an average rate for the county, and that the rate for each farm may be higher or lower than the county average, depending on how productive the farm is. County committees now are determining the actual rates for each farm for which a work sheet has been filed. When that work is done, the rate for farms of similar productivity will be about the same, no matter in what county the farm is located.

"In establishing the county average rates", he says, "two sets of records were used--the records of the State Statistician and those of the Agricultural Census. Those give us the best figures on crop yields and acreages that we can get. The county's yield of each of the principal soil-depleting crops (wheat, corn, and so forth) was compared with the average yield for the whole country.

582-36

(more)

Then acreage was considered so that the yield of a crop with a small acreage in the county would not be given the same importance as the yield of a crop with a large acreage.

"When that had been done, this comparison of combined yield figure for all the principal soil-depleting crops in the county with the national yield figure for those same crops gave us a percentage of ____. Since the average rate of the soil-conserving payment for the whole country already had been set at $10 an acre, this percentage meant that the county rate would be $___ an acre."

Mr. _____ says that the soil-conserving or Class I payments will be made to farmers who have diverted some of their general soil-depleting base acreage to soil-conserving crops this year. The per-acre payments will be made for diverting up to 15 percent of that base.

He said that work sheets still are being filed by farmers who want to qualify for either the Class I payments, or for the Class II payments, which are made for using approved soil-building practices.

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(Western Region)

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FARM PAYMENT RATE TO DEPEND ON PRODUCTIVITY

County Agent _____ reminds _____ County
(Name of county)
farmers that the average county rate of the soil-conserving payment, which was announced last week, IS NOT necessarily the rate which each individual farmer will receive for diverting acreage under the 1936 Agricultural Conservation Program.

The individual farm rates will be higher or lower than the county average, depending upon the productivity of the individual farm, just as the county rates for counties all over the country are higher or lower than the national average of $10 an acre, depending upon the productivity of the land in each county.

It is only natural that the rates should be lower or higher than the national average, _____ says. In some areas where rainfall is light, or the soil is less productive, rates are less than the national average. Usually in these areas land values are lower and the rate represents about the same proportion of the productivity of the land as higher rates do in counties of more rainfall and better soil.

The productivity indexes, which determined the county rates of payment, were computed by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration on the basis of the yields of the 13 principal soil-depleting crops in each county in the 10-year period 1923 to 1932, inclusive, as determined from available statistics in the Department of Agriculture. The relative acreage of each crop in the county was taken into consideration in computing the productivity index.

583-36 (6-5-36) # # #

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 664
(Western Region)

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JUN 2
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

COMPUTING FARM RATES IS NEXT STEP IN COUNTY

Establishment of the individual rates of soil-conserving payments for farms in _____ County will be the next step after all work sheets are filled out in the 1936 Agricultural Conservation Program, County Agent (or county committee chairman) _____ says.

The information supplied on the work sheet, after being checked by the County Agricultural Conservation Committee, will provide the information needed to determine the productivity index for each farm, _____ says.

The Agricultural Adjustment Administration will furnish each county with county average yield figures of the most important soil-depleting crops in that county. Each farmer's yield of the most important soil-depleting crop on his farm, or the most important crops, will be compared with this county average to determine the productivity index for his farm. This productivity index will be computed by dividing the farm yield by the average county yield, and by multiplying the result by 100. This gives a percentage, and when the county average payment rate is multiplied by this percentage the result is the payment rate for the farm.

The method may be illustrated in the case of a farm on which wheat is the principal crop. If the average yield for the county were 10 bushels to the acre, and the county average rate was $6 an acre, and if the farmer's

(more)

584-36

average yield, as approved on his work sheet, was 15 bushels to the acre, his payment would be computed by dividing the farm yield of 15 bushels by the county average yield of 10 bushels, which would give a result of 1.5. This result multiplied by 100 would give a productivity index or percentage of 150. Multiplying the county average rate of $6 by this percentage of 150 would give a rate of $9 an acre which this farmer could receive for diverting up to 15 percent of his soil-depleting base acreage in 1936 to soil-conserving crops or uses. If his yields were less than the county average the amount of his grant would be correspondingly smaller.

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 665
(North East Region)

JUN 2

WHEAT PAYMENTS NOT TO BAN SOIL PLAN ASSISTANCE

Farmers who are due to receive payments under the 1936 wheat adjustment program may also qualify for payments under the 1936 Agricultural Conservation Program, according to _____ _____, county agent (or committeeman). "Farmers in _____ _____ county", he says, "seem to have gotten the impression that the wheat payment will be deducted from the Agricultural Conservation payment. This, however, is not the case, and farmers should understand that their wheat payments are for performance rendered prior to January 6, 1936, whereas the Agricultural Conservation payments will be for things done during the current year."

_____ points out that in establishing
(County agent or committeeman)
the 1936 soil-depleting bases on farms where wheat, corn-hog, or tobacco contracts were in effect in 1935, the rented, contracted, or retired acreage from which no soil-depleting crop was harvested, should be included in the 1936 soil-depleting base under the Agricultural Conservation Program.

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600-36

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AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DROUGHT SHOWS INSURANCE VALUE OF SOIL PROGRAM

With farmers in the eastern part of the Southern Region feeling the effects of drought, County Agent _____ says they are learning the insurance value of the Agricultural Conservation Program.

In the past 2 years crop failure due to drought might have forced many farmers in Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Texas out of farming had it not been for payments under the old program, _____ said. This year farmers in parts of Georgia, South Carolina, and Alabama in the Southern Region are feeling the effects of drought. D. W. Watkins, director of extension service in South Carolina, estimates that on the first of June there was only a 10 percent stand of cotton in the Piedmont section of that State, and only a 25 percent stand of cotton for the State as a whole.

"Payments under the Agricultural Conservation Program to producers in these drought affected States will in many cases enable producers to save their farms and to continue farming operations in 1937", _____ said. While the new program does not control production and thus does not give the same degree of price insurance that was possible under the old commodity program, it does give insurance against crop failure.

Payments also will make it possible for those farmers whose crops are affected by drought to secure seed and credit with which to produce a feed crop in 1936, provided there is a sufficient supply of moisture.
_____ pointed out that the program does not have to be modified to meet this special condition that has arisen. Provisions in the program for the Southern Region permit the production of food and feed crops for home consumption.

613-36 (6-12-36)

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 667
(North Central Region)

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JUN 2

FARMERS ARE URGED TO OBTAIN PROOF OF PRACTICES ADOPTED

_____ County farmers who are planning to apply for soil-conservation grants this fall are being urged to obtain evidence now that they are performing in line with the standards set up for the 1936 farm program.

"Statements of proof certified at the time performance is made may save cooperating farmers a lot of trouble or embarrassment later on", says _____ _____ (county agent or county committeeman).

The necessary proof of performance may be obtained by having a statement signed by a community committeeman or by at least two neighboring farmers. This evidence should then be kept by the farmer until it is requested later this year, when community committeemen check the extent of performance on his farm and determine his eligibility for a grant.

A statement of proof should contain the following information: (1) The name of the county, and the township or other minor civil division; (2) The number of the work sheet which has been filled out for the farm: (3) receipts for the purchase of any seed or other materials; (4) proof of the kind and amount of seed sown or material applied, and the method of seeding or application; (5) the date the seeding was made or when the practice was adopted; (6) the number of acres upon which the practice was followed, and adequate identification of the acreage; (7) the name of the operator and

(more)

landlord, if any, and (8) any other material which may serve to support a farmer's evidence of performance.

One of the provisions of the program states that a good stand of any soil-conserving crop will constitute proof of performance -- unless the Secretary of Agriculture approves other proofs. As Mr. _____ pointed out, questions will come up this fall as to whether the stand is good enough to provide satisfactory proof. Cooperating farmers therefore may be requested to furnish other evidence.

Relative to soil-building practices for Class II payments, evidence may be required to prove that only such methods and such kinds and quantities of seeds, trees, and other materials were used as conform to good farming practice. Likewise, this fall, it may be impossible to determine whether certain pasture improvements were made last spring or if and where lime, phosphates, or potash were applied.

"It would be advisable, therefore, to have statements of proof on hand if requested by committeemen when performance is checked," Mr. _____ _____ concluded.

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JUN 2

COUNTY AGENT EXPLAINS
HOW NEW SOILS PROGRAM
AFFECTS MULTIPLE FARMS

Though a farmer who owns or operates more than one farm in _____ _____ County must have a work sheet filled out for each of his farms if he plans to take part in the 1936 farm program, he may make an application for a grant on only one or any number of his farms, County Agent _____ _____ explained this week.

This farmer's eligibility for a soil conservation grant and the amount of his grant, Mr. _____ pointed out, will be determined by checking performance on all farms for which he makes an application in much the same manner as though they were but one farm. If the total acreage in soil-conserving crops on these farms, for example, is at least equal to the sum of the minimum acreages of these crops on each farm, no deduction will be made for not meeting the minimum on any one farm. The minimum on most farms in this county is 15 percent of the general soil-depleting base.

Likewise, this farmer may obtain the maximum Class I payment for diversion from soil-depleting to soil-conserving crops, even though the maximum shift of 15 percent of his base is not made on one of his farms. The difference may be made up by a diversion greater than the maximum on one or more of the other farms on which he applies for a grant.

Class II payments also will be based upon approved soil-building practices carried out on all farms for which he makes an application, Mr. _____ said. His soil-building allowance, that is the top

(more)

615-36

limit on the amount of Class II payments he may receive, will be the same number of dollars as there are total acres in soil-conserving crops on these farms in 1936.

No payments will be made for performance on any one of this man's farms for which he does not apply for a grant. Likewise he will not be subject to a deduction for failure to have the minimum acreage of soil-conserving crops on these farms. Deductions may be made, however, Mr. _____ explained, if the total acreage in soil-depleting crops on the farms for which he makes no application is larger than the total soil-depleting base acreage for such farms.

More detailed information on how the provisions of the new soils program affect multiple landowners or operators may be obtained from local committeemen or from County Agent _____.

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 669
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JUN 23
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

COUNTY AGENT ANSWERS QUERIES ON SOIL PROGRAM

1. Q. Will the rate of the Class I payment for my farm be the average rate per acre for my county?

   A. Probably not. If your farm is more productive than the average for all farms in the county, your rate will be higher. If it is less productive, your rate will be lower.

2. Q. I have a small farm, and the largest acreage of soil-conserving crops that possibly fits into my farming system is six acres; will my soil-building allowance be only $6?

   A. No; it will be $10. The program makes special provisions for small farms by stating that the smallest soil-building allowance shall be $10, no matter what is the acreage of soil-conserving crops.

3. Q. Some of the requirements for soil-building practices call for more lime and other fertilizers than I have been using to improve grasses and legumes, or establish new seedings; why is that true?

   A. The standards follow out recommendations for the <u>best</u> farming practices for the State. Sometimes they require more materials than farmers have been able to pay for without financial help.

4. Q. Is it too late to benefit fully from the program this year?

   A. No. Many of the approved soil-building practices still can be used to advantage.

5. Q. If that is true, is there need for promptness in filling out a work sheet?

   A. Yes, for the county committee needs to go over all the work sheets together in order to determine definite base-acreage figures and rates of soil-conserving payments. Farmers who turn in work sheets after those calculations are made may have to wait some time for their final figures.

616-36 (6-12-36)

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(Northeastern Region)

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JUN 23

COUNTY COMMITTEES TO SET RATES FOR INDIVIDUAL FARMS

County Agricultural Conservation Committees are preparing to establish rates of the soil-conserving payments for individual farms in _____ County, _____ _____, county agent (or committeeman) says. He points out that the rate for each farm will depend on its productivity. Farms more productive than the average for the county will receive rates higher than the county average rate. Less productive farms will receive lower rates.

The average rate for _____ county, announced recently, is $_____ an acre.

Mr. _____ said that when practically all work sheets for the county have been turned in, the committee will determine the individual rates from the information which farmers have given on work sheets. The rate will be established by comparing the yield of a farm's most important soil-depleting crop with the yield of that crop for the county.

As an example, he said, suppose corn was the principle soil-depleting crop of a farm, and the average yield of corn for the farm was 36 bushels an acre. Then suppose that the average yield for the county was 40 bushels an acre. The productivity of the farm would be 36/40, which is the same as 90 percent. The rate of the soil-conserving payment for the farm, then, would be 90 percent of the county rate, or $_____.

617-36

(more)

Mr. _____ said that if a farm had no soil-depleting crop more important than another, the yields of two or three of his soil-depleting crops will be compared with the average county yields.

The soil-conserving, or Class I payments, will be made on acreage diverted from soil-depleting crops to soil-conserving crops.

Mr. _____ said that farmers who turn in work sheets after the individual rates have been established, may have to wait some time before they learn their rates.

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(Western Region)

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AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

COUNTY AGENTS
SUGGEST CHECK
UP ON PLANTINGS

Farmers who fill out work sheets in the 1936 Agricultural Conservation Program should make certain that their farming operations will qualify them for payments under the program, County Agent _____ says.

Later on in the season each farmer will have an opportunity to make a formal application for a grant under the program and then his farming operations will be checked to see if he is entitled to the grant.

The most important thing farmers can do now is to check up on their soil-conserving acreage, Mr. _____ says. The requirements are that the farmer have his minimum acreage in soil-conserving crops or land devoted to approved soil-conserving uses and that he divert the acreage from his soil-depleting base.

The minimum acreages which the farmer must show in soil-conserving crops or in approved soil-building practices which may be substituted for soil-conserving crops are 15 percent of the general soil-depleting base (20 percent of the special cotton or tobacco base, 25 percent of the special rice base). (Note to Editor -- Delete crops not applicable). And if sugar beets are grown an accompanying acreage in soil-conserving crops is required equal to 40 percent of the acreage in sugar beets. For flax it is necessary to have an accompanying acreage equal to 20 percent of the acreage in flax. If farmers have this qualifying acreage, they will then be eligible for payments for the acreage they

(more)

618-36

divert from their soil-depleting bases up to the limits as provided in the program.

From the general soil-depleting base, a farmer may divert 15 percent of the acreage and receive the soil-conserving (Class I) payment. From the cotton base the diversion may be between 25 and 35 percent of the base. For tobacco the maximum diversion is 30 percent of the base.

If farmers do not have their minimum acreages in soil-conserving crops, there is still time for them to plant certain crops, _____ says. Some of the crops which may still be planted in this State to qualify acreage as soil-conserving include:

(Extension Editor -- List here crops applicable for your State.)

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(East Central Region)

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JUN 29

NEW WORK SHEET
SIGN-UP SET FOR
WEEK OF JUNE 22

In view of the fact that a number of producers, particularly small farmers and farmers located in areas severely affected by drought, still want to come into the Agricultural Conservation Program, the week beginning June 22 and ending June 27 has been set aside to give _____ (County) farmers a further opportunity to file work sheets, _____ (County agent or State extension official), announced today.

During this period, county agents and committeemen will assist farmers, who feel that they will be benefited by the program, in filling out work sheets.

This special opportunity for farmers to sign up was decided upon because many farmers have only recently had time and opportunity to find out about the program and to see how it is adapted to their individual needs.

Reports from the States in the East Central Region show that up to June 1 about 350,000 work sheets had been filed in this region. This figure represents about two-thirds of the farm land in the region. It is believed that the final percentage of sign-up will be at least 75 percent of the farm land in the area.

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643-36 (6-18-36)

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No.673
(East Central Region)

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JUN 28
U.S. DEPARTMENT

DAIRY FARMERS BENEFIT FROM SOILS PROGRAM

The extent to which dairy farmers may receive payments under the Agricultural Conservation Program, _____ (Director of extension or county agent) says, will be governed largely by their relative acreages of soil-depleting and soil-conserving crops and the extent to which they will find it advantageous to adopt approved soil-building practices or make diversions from their soil-depleting bases.

_____ says that farmers who ordinarily have small proportions of their land in soil-depleting crops and who may not find it advisable to reduce such crops may qualify for Class II, or soil-building, payments by adopting certain approved practices, such as seedings of biennial and perennial legumes, plowing under green-manure crops, application of lime and fertilizers, and plantings of forest trees. Such payments are to be made for each acre on which the practices are applied, with the maximum total amount allowable for Class II payments on a particular farm determined by multiplying by $1 the acreage of crops classed as soil-conserving.

Because a relatively large share of their cropland is in soil-conserving crops, Class II payments probably will represent a large proportion of the payments to dairy farmers.

Dairy farmers who have other enterprises as well as dairying, ordinarily have substantial proportions of their cropland in corn, small grains, field

649-36 (more)

crops, annual grasses, and other crops making up the general soil-depleting base. _____ says they may readily qualify for Class I payments by diverting to crops in the soil-conserving class.

Small grains, to a considerable extent nurse crops, harvested as grain or hay constitute large proportions of the general soil-depleting bases of many dairy farmers. One way in which farmers may qualify for Class I, or soil-conserving, payments will be by seeding certain grasses and clovers with small grains and clipping or pasturing such nurse crops to prevent grain formation, thereby shifting the acreage from soil-depleting crops to soil-conserving crops. Class I payments may be earned on 15 percent of the general soil-depleting base.

_____ believes this financial assistance will enable many dairy farmers to conserve and improve the productivity of their farming land, check erosion on hillsides and slopes, improve their pastures, correct acidity conditions, and further increase the proportion of legumes in their roughage supplies. Farmers may obtain detailed information relative to the specific conditions under which they may qualify for such payments from their local committeemen.

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649-36 (6-19-36)

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 674
(North Central Region)

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JUN 2 0
Agricultural Economics
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF A

_____ REPORTS
(State)
_____ WORK SHEETS
(Number)
IN FARM PROGRAM

Approximately _____ work sheets had been filled out as of June_____
(Number) (Date)
by _____ farmers who hope to cooperate and receive payments under
(name of State)
the 1936 farm program, according to _____, director of the State Extension Service (or chairman of the State Committee).

This is at least a partial indication of the excellent progress that has been made toward soil conservation and improvement in this State, he said.

The number of work sheets reported by the counties, however, do not necessarily indicate the number of farmers who are going to take part, Director (or Chairman) _____ pointed out. The work sheet furnishes the information that local committeemen need before they can recommend a soil-depleting base for a farm. Though one is necessary if a farmer is to become eligible for a grant, a work sheet does not obligate the farmer in any way to perform in line with the soil-conservation standards set up for this year. Also, in some cases, two work sheets may be necessary to cover one farming unit, for example, if a man operates his own farm and then rents part of his neighbor's farm on a share basis.

It has been estimated by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration in Washington that nearly two million work sheets have been executed in the

650-36 (more)

North Central Region alone. On June 6, the total was 1,884,350. Unofficial reports from all 10 States at that time showed that 300,000 more were expected. It is believed that in most of the 898 counties in this region, practically all farms will be covered by work sheets.

The other nine States in the North Central or Corn Belt Region are Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. (EDITOR: Delete name of your State. For your information and use, the number of work sheets executed by States as of June 6 was reported as follows: Illinois, 217,000; Indiana, 239,500; Iowa, 235,000; Michigan, 158,000; Minnesota, 167,500; Missouri, 252,500; Nebraska, 175,000; Ohio, 186,000; South Dakota, 93,500; and Wisconsin, 160,000.)

According to County Agent _____, _____
(Name of county)
County farmers have filled out _____ work sheets covering _____
(Number)
percent of all farm land in the county. It will be impossible to determine the extent of performance that _____ County farmers will make and the amount of payments they will receive under the program, Mr. ___ _____ explained, until later in the year when performance is checked by local committeemen.

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 675
(Southern Region)

JUN
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF A

GROWERS OF NUTS GET LESS RETURN AS CROPS INCREASE

With the production of domestic tree nuts increasing steadily during the past 15 years, there has been a sharp decline in returns to growers paralleled by a sharp drop in imports.

The outstanding feature of the industry in recent years has been the rapid increase in production which culminated in the record crop of 1935. From the average annual production of 46,500 tons of walnuts, pecans, almonds, and filberts in the years 1920 to 1924, the production of these nuts exceeded 111,800 tons in 1935, or an increase of more than 140 percent.

At the same time, imports of tree nuts have decreased sharply. In the 1920-24 period, the annual imports of walnuts, almonds, pecans, brazils, filberts, chestnuts, pignolias, pistachios, and cashews averaged 117,110 tons, as compared to 65,300 tons imported in 1935. During recent years imports of walnuts have decreased sharply while imports of Brazil nuts have increased, and substantial quantities of cashews appeared on domestic markets for the first time.

As imports fell off, total farm income from tree nuts dropped to relatively low levels. Averaging approximately $26,897,000 annually during the period 1923 to 1928, farm income from tree nuts dropped to an annual average of $15,185,000 during 1931 to 1934. In 1935 farm income from tree nuts had risen to $18,885,000. During the last 3 years marketing-agreement, surplus-removal, and diversion programs have been utilized by growers of tree nuts.

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651-36 (6-19-36)

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 676
(General)

SURPLUS FARM GOODS BOUGHT FOR RELIEF USE

Since the middle of November 1935, the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation has distributed for relief use in the States over 200 million pounds of foodstuffs, nearly 3 million bushels of apples, thousands of boxes of citrus fruits, and thousands of cases of canned goods.

These large quantities of surplus farm products if sold on commercial markets would have seriously depressed prices. These commodities were made available in addition to, rather than in substitution for, other forms of direct relief available from welfare agencies.

Through this program it has been possible, in a great many instances, to prevent waste of surplus farm products, improve returns to producers, and bring about an increase in domestic consumption through the diversion of the surpluses from normal channels of trade.

The Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation, established in October 1933 as the Federal Surplus Relief Corporation, is concerned with the utilization of price-depressing agricultural surpluses for relief distribution through accredited State and local agencies on such a basis as will not interfere with regular commercial purchases.

The following table shows the wide range and quantity of surplus farm products distributed by the corporation from November 16, 1935, to May 31, 1936:

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(more)

Commodity	Quantity	Unit
Apples	2,954,587	Bushels
Dried beans	15,126,210	Pounds
Dried peas	14,990,880	Pounds
Citrus fruits	160,537	Boxes
Dried prunes	11,000,000	Pounds
Late onions	6,760,000	Pounds
Early & intermediate onions	23,136,500	Pounds
Cabbage	7,800,000	Pounds
Carrots	3,192,000	Pounds
Figs	600,000	Pounds
Turnips	182,300	Pounds
Cherries	30,000	#10 Cans
Grape jam	55,225	Dozs. #5 cans
Grape jam	3,845	Dozs. #3 cans
Eggs	1,212,000	Dozens
Butter	3,339,200	Pounds
Dry skim milk	1,832,076	Pounds
Evaporated milk	234,400	Cases of 48 tall cans
Cheese	502,049	Pounds
Canned beef	101,465,838	Pounds net contents
Enriched oat cereal	4,080,727	Pounds
Rolled oats	14,400,167	Pounds

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 677
(General)

STATES REQUEST COTTON TO USE IN ROAD TESTS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Thirty-two States have filed requests with the Agricultural Adjustment Administration for cotton fabric and mats to be used in field tests of new uses of cotton in highway construction.

Requests for more than 6 million square yards of cotton fabric for use as a reinforcement membrane in bituminous surface-treated highways were filed by 24 of the 32 States. Estimates indicate that this material is to be used in the construction of more than 575 miles of road.

Twenty-three of the 32 States filed requests for nearly 90,000 mats for use in curing concrete highways.

The project is being financed with funds set aside under amendments to the Agricultural Adjustment Act, approved last August, which makes available to the Secretary of Agriculture an amount equal to 30 percent of the customs receipts for uses which include the encouragement of domestic consumption of agricultural commodities by diverting them from normal channels of trade to new uses. The offer was made to State highway departments so that tests might be made under all climatic conditions.

Those States requesting cotton fabric or mats for highway construction tests are Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.

653-36 (6-19-36)

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 678
(North Central Region)

STATE FARMERS
MAY STILL TAKE
PART IN PROGRAM

U. S. DEPARTMENT

_____ farmers who have not yet adopted practices to conserve soil and its fertility under the 1936 farm program still have opportunity to take part this year. This point was emphasized recently by _____ _____, director of the State Agricultural Extension Service.
(Name of State)

Many farmers already have adopted some practices that will qualify them for payments, Director _____ said. These practices include diversion made from corn, wheat, and other soil-depleting crops to soil-conserving crops or uses. Other farmers are following approved practices for improving pastures or controlling weeds. Many additional opportunities, however, are available for performance, he pointed out.

During the remainder of this month and early July, _____ farmers still have opportunity to put in new seedings of alfalfa. Soybeans or other green manure crops may be plowed under to restore the fertility of low-productive land. Still other farmers may qualify for payments by putting the required amounts of limestone or phosphates on pastures or cropland that are in need of these or other approved mineral supplements.
(Name of State)

The director therefore urges farmers who are not acquainted with some of the approved practices which they can adopt this year and receive payment, to consult their local committeemen or the county agent.

Director _____ further suggests that all farmers who have not had work sheets filled out for their farms should see that this is done immediately if they intend to become eligible for payments. The recommendation has

(more)

654-36

been made that June 30 should be the final date when work sheets may be executed and filed with local committeemen.

It is believed that in most of the _____ counties in this
(Number)
State practically all farms will be covered by work sheets. This makes it possible for nearly all farmers in these counties to apply for payments later in the year if they desire to do so.

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(Western Region)

JUN 29
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FARMERS MAY EARN PAYMENTS FOR TERRACING

Terracing is one of the approved soil-building practices which farmers in _____ may adopt in order to qualify for payments under
(Name of county)
the 1936 Agricultural Conservation Program, _____, in charge of the program in _____, says.
(State)

Terracing is particularly important in preventing severe erosion and gullying and for this reason it has been included in the recommended practices in this State.

In order to qualify for the soil-building payment for terracing, the terraces must be constructed according to approved specifications. The payment for terracing in this State is $ _____ per acre.

(Note to Editor.--Insert here paragraph from W. R. Bulletin 2 for your State or other general information farmers should have for terracing in your State, such as date work must be done, equipment needed, etc.)

For detailed information farmers should consult the county agent.

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655-36 (6-19-36)

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 680
(Cotton Story)

JUN
U. S. DEPARTMENT

(State) COTTON
PRICE PAYMENTS
TOTAL $_____

More than 22 million dollars had been paid out in cotton-price adjustment payments on June 10 to nearly 700,000 producers who have filed applications, according to an announcement by Cully A. Cobb, director of the Agricultural Conservation Program for the Southern Region.

Of this amount, _____ farmers have received $_____, _____
(State)
_____ director of the State extension service, said.

The total number of producers who have received payments represents about 44 percent of those eligible to make application, although 57 percent of the producers have submitted applications which will be acted upon in the order in which they were submitted.

In urging producers who have not applied for payment to do so as soon as possible, Mr. Cobb said that the cotton-price adjustment payment is a decided improvement over the domestic allotment payment. "Under the domestic allotment plan producers would receive payments on only approximately one-half of their 1935 cotton production, while under the plan now being operated, most producers will receive cotton-price adjustment payments on 90 to 100 percent of their 1935 production."

A break-down by States shows payments have been made to applicants as follows:

(more)

660-36

Alabama	$3,088,558.06
Arizona	302,308.28
Arkansas	444,083.61
California	399,010.86
Florida	120,704.31
Georgia	3,710,154.44
Illinois	553.08
Kentucky	24,246.55
Louisiana	2,011,869.85
Mississippi	4,770,817.34
Missouri	217,106.82
New Mexico	69,999.20
North Carolina	550,586.68
Oklahoma	233,838.09
South Carolina	1,599,744.55
Tennessee	754,368.75
Texas	4,457,950.61
Virginia	47,376.20
Total	$22,803,257.28

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(Northeast Region)

JUN 2
U. S. DEPARTMENT

DECLARES CHANGES
MAKE PROGRAM FIT
NORTHEAST BETTER

Farmers who grow buckwheat, rape, nursery stock, or commercial bulbs and flowers may be interested in recent changes in the Agricultural Conservation Program for the Northeast, _____ _____, County Agent (or committeeman), says.

The changes, he explains, do not affect the purpose or general method of the program; but modify some of the details to make the program better fitted to the needs and good farming methods of this part of the country.

Commercial bulbs and flowers and rape have been added to the list of crops that are classified as soil-depleting. Mr. _____ says that this means that acres in those crops will be added to a farm's general soil-depleting base, and that acres diverted from those crops to soil-conserving crops would qualify farmers for soil-conserving payments.

Another change provides that acres devoted to bulbs and flowers and then planted to green-manure or winter-cover crops will be counted along with soil-conserving acreage in determining the soil-building allowance. This method previously was used only for acreage in potatoes or vegetables. All that the new provision does, Mr. _____ says, is to add bulbs and flowers to the original provision.

Also, he says, the latest date for turning under green-manure or winter-cover crops on vegetable, potato, and bulb and flower acreage has

(more)

been changed from Oct. 1, 1936 to Nov. 1, 1936 (Note to New York Editor: The latest date will be December 1 on muck land in 20 counties.) That modification, Mr. _____ says, recognizes the fact that truck-crop growers often harvest a late crop, so that the green-manure crops would not have time to reach the required two months' growth by October 1.

Rape and buckwheat are added to the list of crops that are classified as soil-conserving if they are either turned under or left on the land as cover crops on orchards or vineyards.

Land devoted to nursery stock has been included in the classification of neutral land that is not counted as either soil-conserving or soil-depleting

Mr. _____ says that any farmers who feel that the changes will enable them to participate more fully in the program can get the details from the county agent's (or committee's) office.

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JUN 23
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

CHANGE IN SOIL PLAN PROVIDES FOR SMALL FARM

A recent change in the Agricultural Conservation Program enables more small farmers to qualify for soil-building payments this year, _____ _____, County Agent (or committeeman), says. The change exempts Class II, or soil-building, payments from the deductions that will be made if a farmer fails to have the required minimum acreage of soil-conserving crops in 1936.

Pointing out that deductions will be made unless a farmer has an acreage of soil-conserving crops at least equal to 15 percent of his general soil-depleting base acreage, plus 20 percent of his tobacco soil-depleting base. Mr. _____ says that this requirement in its original form was what has kept many small farmers from being eligible for soil-building payments. It provided for deductions from total payments--soil-building payments as well as diversion payments. Many small farmers, especially those with most of their land in vegetables, had little or no acreage of soil-conserving crops to begin with; and unless those farmers were able to divert fifteen percent of their soil-depleting acreage, or more if they grew tobacco, deductions would be made from the payments they otherwise would earn.

Mr. _____ explains that since one and one-half times the rate for diverting an acre is deducted for each acre by which a farmer is short of the minimum, the deductions might easily be as large as the total payments earned.

(more)

662-36

He says that the new provision, which states that deductions shall be made only from the payment that is made for diversion, will enable small farmers to earn soil-building payments up to the limit of their soil-building allowance, even if their deductions are larger than the soil-conserving payment they would have earned.

"Some growers", he says, "have been able to divert the full fifteen percent, and so can earn both types of payment, but others just could not divert that much without upsetting their systems of farming."

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1936 SOIL PLAN CHANGED TO MEET HAY EMERGENCY

The State Agricultural Conservation Committee has named _____ County as one of the counties in which the farm program will be modified because of the damage done to the hay crop by drought (add frost if necessary), according to _____ _____, County Agent (or committeeman).

As a result of the modification, any small grains, annual grasses, or annual legumes that are harvested for hay will be classified as soil-conserving if they are seeded on the same land after another soil-conserving crop that has been abandoned because of weather conditions. Under ordinary conditions those three types of crop are classified as soil-depleting.

_____ explains that the change enables the program to encourage hay production which is needed in view of the probable shortage in many parts of the northeast, and to give farmers whose soil-conserving crops have been destroyed a new chance to qualify for payments this year.

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663-36 (6-20-36)

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AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DAIRY FARMERS BENEFIT FROM SOILS PROGRAM

The extent to which dairy farmers may receive payments under the Agricultural Conservation Program, _____ (Director of Extension or County Agent) says, will be governed largely by their relative acreages of soil-depleting and soil-conserving crops and the extent to which they will find it advantageous to decrease their soil-depleting and increase soil-conserving crop acreages or adopt certain approved practices.

Small grains, to a considerable extent nurse crops, harvested as grain or hay, will constitute large proportions of the general soil-depleting bases of many dairy farmers. One way in which these farmers may qualify for Class I, or soil-conserving, payments will be by seeding certain grasses and clovers with small grains, and clipping or pasturing such nurse crops to prevent grain formation, thereby reducing their soil-depleting crops below their bases.

_____ says that farmers who ordinarily have small proportions of their land in soil-depleting crops, and who may not find it convenient to reduce such crops, may qualify for Class II, or soil-building, payments by adopting certain approved practices, such as seedings of biennial and perennial legumes, plowing under green-manure crops, application of lime and fertilizers, terracing, and plantings of forest trees. Such payments are to be made for each acre on which the practices are applied, with the

(more)

maximum total amount allowable for Class II payments on a particular farm determined by multiplying by $1 the acreage of crops classed as soil-conserving (from which no soil-depleting crop is harvested.)

Because a relatively large share of their cropland is in soil-conserving crops, Class II payments probably will represent a large proportion of the payments to dairy farmers, particularly those outside of the Corn Belt, _____ pointed out.

Many Corn Belt dairy farmers, who have other enterprises as well as dairying, ordinarily have substantial proportions of their cropland in corn, small grains, field crops, annual grasses, and other crops making up the general soil-depleting base. _____ says they may readily qualify for Class I payments by diverting to crops in the soil-conserving class. Class I payments may be made on 15 percent of the general soil-depleting base.

_____ believes this financial assistance will enable many dairy farmers to conserve and improve the productivity of their farming land, check erosion on hillsides and slopes, improve their pastures, correct acidity conditions and further increase the proportion of legumes in their roughage supplies. Farmers may obtain detailed information relative to the specific conditions under which they may qualify for such payments on their farms from the county agent or county committee.

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664-36 (6-20-36)

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(North Central Region)

JUN 23
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

TIME EXTENDED FOR COMPLIANCE WITH FARM PLAN

_____ farmers cooperating in the 1936 farm program have
(Name of State)
been given a few extra days to adopt certain practices which will qualify them for Class I or soil-conserving payments, _____, director of the State Agricultural Extension Service (OR - chairman of the State Committee), said today.

Soil-conserving measures which required that certain steps, such as plowing or cultivation, be met before June 15 may now be performed up until July 1.

This recent modification of program provisions was made largely for two reasons, Director (OR - Chairman) _____ pointed out. First, the unavoidable delay in announcing some of the program provisions, together with the time required for the establishment of equitable bases for individual farmers, made it impossible for some farmers to take the necessary performance steps before June 15. In the next few days, most farmers will be notified of their soil-depleting bases and will be able to adjust their farming operations to these bases.

The second reason is localized droughts. In small areas, the ground has been hard and dry and practically impossible to cultivate. Farmers in these areas will benefit materially by the additional time allowed, particularly if rain is received.

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665-36

Three major practices -- plowing under certain crops as green manure, summer fallowing, and weed control -- are affected by the additional time allowed. Prior to the change, wheat, oats, barley, rye, buckwheat, flax, rape, emmer, speltz, and grain mixtures, had to be plowed under as green manure before June 15 and then followed by a new seeding of a long-lived legume or grass crop if the practice was to be classified as soil-conserving. Now these crops may be turned under as green manure as late as July 1. Likewise, acreages that have been fallowed will be classed as soil-conserving if they are cultivated by July 1 and followed by a seeding of some soil-conserving crop.

In changing from June 15 to July 1, the date of the first cultivation or of the first chlorate treatment for the control of noxious weeds, the advisability of permitting the weeds to draft considerable strength from the roots before treatment was taken into consideration.

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JUN 23

2 COUNTIES MAKE PLANS FOR CREDIT IN SOIL PROGRAM

Special arrangements for loans to farmers who need materials for soil-building practices under the Agricultural Conservation Program have been made in two counties in the northeast, _____ _____, county agent, (or committeeman) says. He adds that the plans, which have been worked out in Litchfield County, Conn. and Sullivan County, N. H. appear to meet a situation which has come up in some other parts of the region.

"Even though farmers know that the per acre payments for approved soil-building practices will cover from half to three-quarters of the cash cost per acre," he said, "some of them feel that they cannot spare the cash at present, and wait for payments later in the year.

"Reports from the two counties I named state that the county committees have got together with bankers in the county, and worked out arrangements for loans to farmers who want to buy materials like limestone and seed. The banks will require the committee to review such application for a loan, and to find out if the practices each applicant plans to use measure up to the standards of the program."

_____ explained that he understood that in both counties the plan simply was a way to make credit more available, and that it does not interfere with the ways any farmer can get loans through regular channels, without any action by the county committee.

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682-36 (6-24-36)

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FARMERS URGED TO RECORD ALL SOIL PRACTICES

_____ suggests that _____
(County agent or State extension official) (County)
County farmers keep records and preserve evidence of all soil-building practices carried out on their farms.

It is particularly important that records be kept showing the acreage of any green-manure crops and the date turned under. Also, receipts that show ground limestone or superphosphate purchased and applied on the farm should be kept.

Before a producer can qualify for payment he will be required to submit proof of the soil-building practices carried out on the farm. Therefore, it is important that farmers keep all such evidence.

_____ suggests further that farmers notify their local committeemen or the county agent's office when any practices of this kind are carried out. It is not necessary that notice be given in writing, but it is important that the local committeemen be informed of the practices when they are carried out.

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683-36 (6-24-36)

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APPROVED PRACTICES INCREASE PAYMENTS FOR DAIRY FARMERS

The extent to which dairy farmers may receive payments under the Agricultural Conservation Program, _____ (Director of Extension or County Agent) says, is governed largely by their relative acreages of soil-depleting and soil-conserving crops and the extent to which they have found it advantageous to decrease their soil-depleting crop acreages or to adopt certain approved practices.

_____ says that farmers who ordinarily have small proportions of their land in soil-depleting crops and who may not find it convenient to reduce such crops may qualify for Class II, or soil-building, payments by adopting certain approved practices, such as seedings of biennial and perennial legumes, plowing under green-manure crops, application of lime and fertilizers, and plantings of forest trees. Such payments are to be made for each acre on which the practices are applied.

The maximum total amount allowable for Class II payments on a particular farm is a sum equal to $1 for each acre in soil-conserving crops in 1936. Because a relatively large share of their cropland is in soil-conserving crops, this soil-building allowance usually will be larger for dairy farms than for other types of farms, _____ pointed out.

_____ believes this financial assistance will enable many dairy farmers to conserve and improve the productivity of their farming land,

(more)

684-36

check erosion on hillsides and slopes, improve their pastures, correct acidity conditions and further increase the proportion of legumes in their roughage supplies. Farmers may obtain from the county committee detailed information relative to the specific conditions under which they may qualify for such payments in their regions.

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SURPLUS APPLES USED FOR RELIEF BY GOVERNMENT

More than 4,000 carloads of surplus apples were sold to the Federal Government for relief distribution under the surplus removal program of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration.

Fruit growers in 20 States where excessive holdings of apples in storage seriously depressed market prices sold large quantities of their holdings for distribution in consumption channels which otherwise would not have offered an outlet for this fruit.

The States represented in this purchase were California, Connecticut, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, New Hampshire, New York, New Jersey, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Utah, Virginia, Washington, and West Virginia.

Approximately 2,000 carloads of these apples were bought in nine apple-growing States of the East.

Apples bought under the purchase program were turned over by the Commodities Purchase Section to the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation for relief distribution through State agencies. Care was taken to prevent distribution of surplus apples from conflicting with apples in regular channels of trade.

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687-36 (6-24-36)

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DROUGHT TEACHES SOUTHEAST VALUE OF SAVING SOIL

"The drought in the Southeastern States this year has brought home to farmers the importance of saving the soil", Cully A. Cobb, Director of the Agricultural Conservation Program in the Southern Region, said on returning from a recent trip through the drought area of the Southeast.

In those areas where the topsoil had been protected from erosion, Cobb said he found that stands of both cotton and corn did not seem to be seriously affected by the drought. Where the topsoil had been lost through sheet erosion, the land was baked, and had a poor stand of cotton and corn, in many cases less than 10 percent.

Cobb pointed out that it is the first few inches of the topsoil which contain most of the organic matter necessary for productive plant growth and moisture-holding capacity. As erosion removes this top layer, the fertility and productivity of the land is diminished.

"Many farmers in this drought area said they did not realize they were losing their soil through erosion until gullying had started", Cobb said, "and even then did not become alarmed until the gullies had reached some proportions." This year, because of the drought, these farmers are realizing that sheet erosion which is hardly apparent to the eye, removes the topsoil and with it much of the available nitrogen and organic matter. This leaves a poor seedbed, the reduced productivity of which is especially noticeable in years, like this, of insufficient moisture, he said.

Cobb said that southeastern farmers feel a need for a National program of soil conservation and are anxious to cooperate in the Agricultural Conservation Program in 1936.

688-36 (6-25-36) # # #

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FARMERS URGED TO KEEP PROOF OF COMPLIANCE

Farmers in _____ County who are participating in the 1936 Agricultural Conservation Program should keep all records or other evidence which they may have which will show that they have complied with the program, _____, in charge of the program in _____, says.
(State official) (State)

This is most important in drought areas, _____ says, as the program provides that where there is not a satisfactory stand of grasses or legumes growing, other proof of compliance may be accepted.

Among items which farmers should keep are: Receipts for the purchase of seed or other materials; proof of the kind and amount of seed sown, and the method of seeding; date of seeding; number of acres seeded and adequate identification of the acreage sown; and any other material which may be helpful in proving that the farmer has made an honest effort to comply with the program.

Farmers who wish to make doubly certain of proof of compliance may have their community committeeman or two of their neighboring farmers sign statements that they have complied with certain requirements at the time the practices are put into effect. These statements can then be kept until the farm is inspected.

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689-36 (6-24-36)

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CORN BELT PLAYS RESPONSIBLE PART IN SOILS PROGRAM

The responsibility that farmers and agricultural leaders in Corn Belt States have in carrying out a long-time agricultural conservation program was pointed out recently by G. B. Thorne, director of the 1936 farm program in the North Central Region.

This region includes Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

"Each year," Mr. Thorne said, "these 10 States produce approximately 87 percent of the Nation's commercial supply of hogs, from 50 to 55 percent of its beef, from 30 to 40 percent of its wheat, and approximately 65 percent of its feed grains, including corn, oats, barley, and grain sorghums. Largely because of these facts, the vast valley of the Mississippi has become known as the Nation's 'food basket'."

From the standpoint of the soil itself, Mr. Thorne quoted from a report made some time ago by the National Resources Board. This report revealed that 86.3 percent of the "Grade One" land in the United States -- land described as excellent for the crops climatically suited to the region in which it lies -- is located in these 10 States. "The conservation of this precious asset is fundamental and vital," Director Thorne explained.

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690-36 (6-24-36)

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ECONOMIC FORCES ARE RELATED TO USE OF THE LAND

The relation of economic forces and careful land use was stressed recently by G. B. Thorne, director of the 1936 farm program in the North Central Region, in a talk made before the American Institute of Cooperation, at Urbana, Illinois.

"From the standpoint of both private and general interest", he said, "the conservation of national soil resources necessitates national cooperation and action."

Despite the accumulated knowledge of soils and their wise use, and the educational efforts that have been directed in recent years toward persuading individual farmers to practice soil conservation, Director Thorne pointed out that farmers, in general, had continued to follow an exploitative kind of farming.

According to Federal Census data, only about 25 percent of Corn Belt cropland has been devoted to legumes and grasses in recent years. This means a ratio of three to one, 3 acres of soil-depleting crops to 1 acre of soil-conserving crops. A ratio of about two to one for the entire Region, that is, at least 33 percent of all cropland in soil-conserving crops, "is generally considered as necessary to prevent serious soil depletion and soil erosion", Mr. Thorne explained.

"I think that Corn Belt farmers generally know how to treat their land better than they have treated it in the past", he said. "But, in order to survive economic forces over which they as individuals have no control, a

large percentage of them have been forced to take a short-time interest in the land."

He pointed out, however, that improved economic conditions alone cannot be relied upon to bring about an intelligent and careful use of land. In the first place, man is comparatively short-lived, and therefore "he looks upon the land, its soil and the plant food elements in the soil from a relatively short-time point of view." In addition, many farmers are short-lease tenants who probably do not benefit from improvements made in soil fertility, or they have an urge to move onto other farms and therefore do not have a long-time interest in the soil and its productivity.

"Unless we are to surrender ourselves utterly to unbridled competition and all its consequences", stated Mr. Thorne, "our country may reasonably aspire to maintain its agricultural lands in such condition that the food supply of future generations will not be further jeopardized by soil deterioration and the loss of soil itself. It will suffice to say that we have only to take our cue from older nations. The fate that has befallen vast land areas in the Orient shows America the ultimate penalties of land abuse."

Under the new farm program, the Government is offering to share with farmers the expense of conserving the soil and improving the fertility of their farms. "By its recognition that the farmer's opportunity to practice soil conservation is measured by his financial ability to do so, the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act makes possible a new approach to the problem, an approach which reaches the bulk of the Nation's farm land. Hence a fundamental change is made possible, farm by farm, from an exploitative to a conservative type of farming."

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698-36 (6-25-36)

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CORN BELT REGION HAS LARGE ACREAGE OF "PROBLEM" CROPS

Slightly more than two-fifths of the national acreage of cultivated or so-called "problem" crops are normally located in the North Central Region, G. B. Thorne, Director of the 1936 Agricultural Conservation Program in these 10 States, said recently.

The North Central or Corn Belt Region consists of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

"The cultivated crops present a two-fold problem," Mr. Thorne stated, "first from the standpoint of the market and second from the standpoint of the soil. When excessive quantities of these crops are grown for a restricted market, prices inevitably fall. In the past, the struggle to maintain farm income when prices were low has always driven farmers to maintain or expand their volume. In such a situation, the land is depleted of its plant food nutrients at an increasing rate."

Under the 1936 farm program, farmers are provided with a positive incentive to divert some of their cultivated cropland to soil-conserving crops or uses. In making this diversion, they will be shifting some of their land out of crops that deplete the soil and into crops or uses which conserve the soil and add to its fertility.

It is impossible to tell now how much diversion will be made in 1936, Director Thorne explained, because the extent of performance on individual farms will not be checked until later in the year.

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DAIRYMEN BENEFIT FROM AAA SURPLUS REMOVAL PROGRAM

For the primary purpose of improving returns to dairy farmers, the Agricultural Adjustment Administration purchased, from August 1933 to date, more than 162 million pounds of price-depressing surplus dairy products.

These products, which included butter, cheese, dry skim milk, and evaporated milk, were brought from normal channels of trade and diverted for distribution to the needy and unemployed.

The program of buying surplus dairy products was inaugurated largely at the request of representatives of producers and their cooperative marketing associations in August 1933, at a time when the dairy industry was faced with a serious surplus situation. The amount of butter in storage at that time totaled 175 million pounds, the largest volume on record. Other branches of the dairy industry were in an equally critical condition.

Approximately $24,400,000 has been spent in the purchase of more than 71,949,500 pounds of butter, 19,027,500 pounds of cheese, 17,955,700 pounds of dry skim milk, and 53,186,300 pounds of evaporated milk. All of the dairy products bought under the program have been made available for immediate consumption to persons on relief.

The surplus removal operations constitute one phase of a general direct-aid program designed to improve economic conditions in the dairy industry. Other parts include marketing agreement programs for fluid milk markets and for the national dry skim milk and evaporated milk industries, and programs for the elimination of Bang's disease and tuberculosis in cattle.

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PROGRAM CHANGED
TO AID PRODUCER
ON SMALL FARM

A change in the Agricultural Conservation Program for the Southern Region, allowing producers on small farms with a base of five acres or less to receive payment for diverting up to two acres, has been approved by Secretary Henry A. Wallace.

County Agent _____ explained that this means a farmer with a base of 5 acres may be paid for diverting up to 40 percent of his base; with a base of 4 acres he may be paid for diverting up to 50 percent; with a base of 3 acres he may be paid for diverting up to 66-2/3 percent; and with a base of 2 acres or less he may be paid for diverting up to 100 percent of his base.

Heretofore the maximum diversion for which payment could be made was 35 percent of an individual producer's base cotton acreage, but total diversion in a county could not exceed 25 percent of the county quota, _____ said. The provision that payments for a county as a whole could not exceed 25 percent of the county quota was changed to allow all individual producers with a base acreage of more than 5 acres to be paid for diverting 35 percent. Under the ruling, any producer may receive payment for diverting 35 percent even if diversion for the county exceeds the previous 25 percent maximum.

The new ruling enables small cotton farmers and other cotton farmers whose crops have been hit by the drought to take full advantage of the crop insurance provision of the Agricultural Conservation Program.

"There is still time for them to receive a soil-conserving payment where cotton failed to grow because of the drought on an acreage not in excess of 35

(more)

701-36

percent of the cotton base", Cully A. Cobb, Director of the Agricultural Conservation Program for the Southern Region, said. "They may qualify by planting summer legumes or adopting any of a number of approved soil-building practices. Information on these practices may be obtained from county agents, and county and State committees."

The change which enables producers with a base cotton acreage of five acres or less to divert up to two acres is in line with that section of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act which provides that the Secretary of Agriculture shall "in every practicable manner, protect the interests of small producers", Cobb said.

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PRODUCERS URGED
TO CHECK UP ON
FARM OPERATIONS

Farmers who fill out work sheets in the 1936 Agricultural Conservation Program should check up on their farming operations to make certain they will be qualified for payments under the program, County Agent _____ _____ says.

Later in the season each farmer will have an opportunity to make a formal application for a grant under the program. Then his farming operations will be checked to see if he is entitled to the grant.

The most important thing farmers can do now is to check up on their soil-conserving acreage, _____ says. The requirements are that the farmer have his minimum acreage in soil-conserving crops or land devoted to approved soil-conserving uses and that he divert the acreage from his soil-depleting base.

The minimum acreages which the farmer must have in soil-conserving crops or acreage devoted to certain soil-conserving uses are: 15 percent of the general soil-depleting base, 20 percent of the cotton, tobacco and peanut soil-depleting bases, 25 percent of the rice soil-depleting base and 40 percent of the sugarcane for sugar soil-depleting base. If the rice producer does not have 25 percent of his base rice acreage in soil-conserving crops or devoted to approved soil-conserving uses he will not qualify for a soil-conserving payment with respect to rice. However, for all other crops,

a producer may still qualify for a soil-conserving payment, even though he does not have a specified minimum acreage in soil-conserving crops. In such case, there will be a reduction in the soil-conserving payment in an amount equal to one and one-half times the rate per acre for the farm for a diversion from the general soil-depleting base, multiplied by the number of acres which the producer lacks of having a minimum acreage required in soil-conserving crops.

From the general soil-depleting base, a farmer may be paid for diverting 15 percent, provided such diverted acreage is not needed to produce food and feed for home needs. A farmer may be paid up to 35 percent of the cotton soil-depleting base, if such base is more than five acres. If the cotton base is five acres or less, he can be paid for diverting as much as two acres. A farmer may be paid for diverting up to 30 percent of his tobacco soil-depleting base, and for diverting up to 20 percent of his peanut soil-depleting base.

# # #

702-36 (6-25-36)

United States Department of Agriculture, Extension Service and
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Washington, D. C.

JUL

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 698
(East Central Region)

SEEDING ALFALFA QUALIFIES SMALL FARMER FOR GRANT

_____ suggests that many small
(County agent or State extension official)
farmers who have suitable land may find it desirable to seed alfalfa under the Agricultural Conservation Program.

In this connection Mr. _____ points out that the $10 minimum soil-building allowance provided under the program may be earned for practices ordinarily carried out in seeding one acre to alfalfa.

For example, a farmer may turn under a green-manure crop, apply lime or superphosphate or both, and seed the land to alfalfa. Payment will be made for each of these practices and the total amount earned may equal the $10 minimum soil-building allowance.

This is just one example of what a farmer can do on a small acreage under the Agricultural Conservation Program. He may use a number of other combinations of soil-building practices and receive payment for any practices carried out.

# # #

715-36 (7-1-36)

United States Department of Agriculture, Extension Service and
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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No.699
(Northeastern Region)

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IMPROVED PASTURE AMONG OBJECTIVES OF SOILS PROGRAM

Pasture improvement, one of the sound farming practices encouraged by the 1936 Agricultural Conservation Program, can be used as a method of earning Class II or soil-building payments, it is pointed out by _____.
(Extension official or committeeman)

_____ says that pastures are one of the most neglected of our crops. He adds that on land naturally well adapted to pasture, farmers can greatly improve the quality of their pastures, and can carry more livestock per acre by seeding adapted grasses and legumes and by applying the proper fertilizer.

He says that proper seeding and fertilization, controlled grazing, and the removal of weeds, inferior grasses, briars, and brush will improve pastures and lower the costs of producing meat and milk. Improved pastures, he also points out, provide an effective means of controlling erosion; and if properly managed are effective in building up fertility.

_____ _____, county agent (or committeeman), points out that farmers who use approved practices to improve their pastures will be eligible for soil-building payments up to the limits of their soil-building allowances. The payments, he says, are being offered in a national effort to conserve and improve farm land by making it possible for individual farmers to make greater use of sound practices on their land. The payments will supply a substantial part of the cash cost to the farmer.

The rates of payment which _____ farmers may earn by applying lime and
(State)
fertilizer on pastures are as follows:

NOTE: Refer to NER Bulletin 2 for your State for rates of payment.

# # #

719-36 (7-3-36)

United States Department of Agriculture, Extension Service and
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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 700
(North Central Region)

SOIL BASES SUIT COUNTY FARMERS IN 1936 PROGRAM

_____ County farmers, in general, are well satisfied with their soil-depleting bases under the 1936 farm program, according to _____ _____, chairman of the county agricultural conservation committee. Their satisfaction is indicated, he said, by the fact that only a few (OR no, OR give number) appeals have been received by the county committee.

All _____ County farmers who had work sheets filled out for their farms were mailed notifications of their soil-depleting bases on _____.
(month and day)

These bases are not necessarily final, Mr. _____ pointed out. "Insofar as possible, they represent the normal acreage of the general soil-depleting crops grown on the farm according to the usual farming practice in the community. In extreme cases, however, a mistake may have been made, for example, in figures submitted on work sheets."

Therefore, if a _____ County farmer believed that his preliminary base was not fair nor representative of his normal farming practice, he had the opportunity of appealing to the county committee, setting forth the reasons why he believed his base was not equitable. These appeals had to be made prior to the date specified in the notification.

Farmers who appealed and are dissatisfied with the decision of the county committee have the further opportunity of appealing to the State Committee for final decision. This second appeal must be made within seven days after receiving notice of the action taken by the county committee.

The purpose of the appeal procedure was expressed recently by G. B. Thorne, director of the agricultural conservation program in the North Central region. "In the first place", he said, "broad latitude of authority has been given to county committees to establish bases by taking into account farming practices, topography of the land, production facilities, and similar facts other than historical records. With such a large task to perform in a limited time it is logical to expect that some unintentional errors have been made. In the second place, the opportunity to appeal is consistent with the spirit of the democratic process which underlies the entire farm program."

The total of all individual soil-depleting bases in a county must fall within the county limit. This limit for _____ County, as established from Federal Census figures, assessor's reports, and other available data, means that the grand total of all soil-depleting acreage established for the county cannot exceed _____ percent of all farm land represented by the work sheets. Individual farms will vary from the county limit as the type of farming followed varies from the county average.

After the total of all bases has been brought within the county limit and the county committee has acted on all appeals, their decisions and all county figures obtained from work sheets covering individual farms are sent to the State Committee where they are carefully reviewed for errors. If adjustments by the State Committee cause changes in individual bases of more than 1 percent, each producer whose base has been changed to this extent will be notified of his final base.

# # #

729-36 (7-3-36)

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 701
(East Central Region)

IMPROVED PASTURE IS AN OBJECTIVE OF 1936 SOIL PROGRAM

_____ points out that improved
(County agent or State extension official)
pastures provide one of the best means of erosion control and, if properly managed, are highly effective in building up the fertility of the soil.

Mr. _____ suggests further that many farmers will find it to their advantage to improve their pastures under the 1936 Agricultural Conservation program. This may be done by following approved soil-building practices such as seeding adapted grasses and legumes or by applying lime to pasture land. Farmers will receive payment for carrying out soil-building practices on their pastures.

Through proper seeding and fertilization and by controlled grazing, the growth of weeds, inferior grasses, and briers may be eliminated or greatly reduced.

Improving the pasture not only adds to the quality of grass but it also keeps the soil from washing and tends to build up the fertility of the land.

# # #

730-36 (7-3-36)

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 702
(East Central Region)

1936 FARM PROGRAM PROVIDES PAYMENTS FOR APPLYING LIME

Farmers in _____ County may find it advantageous to apply
(County)
lime during the summer months and early fall to earn payments under the Agricultural Conservation Program, according to _____
(County agent or State extension official)
_____.

Mr. _____ points out that the application of lime, where needed to produce legumes, is basic in soil conservation and soil-building and is essential to profitable crop and livestock production.

Ground limestone or other forms of agricultural lime may be used effectively when preparing land for seeding soil-conserving crops during the summer and fall. Lime applications also may be made on pastures at a convenient time during the summer and fall, or on meadows after cutting the hay crop.

Liming is recognized as an important soil-building practice under the 1936 Agricultural Conservation Program. Liming may be used to earn Class II or soil-building payments at the following rates: 1,000 pounds per acre, $_____; 2,000 pounds per acre, $_____; 3,000 pounds per acre, $_____; 4,000 pounds per acre, $_____. (Note to Extension Editor: Insert the rates for your State.)

The amount of the Class II payment which may be earned by applying lime or carrying out other soil-building practices is fixed by the amount of the soil-building allowance. The soil-building allowance for the farm is determined by multiplying by $1 the number of acres devoted to soil-conserving crops in 1936.

# # #

731-36 (7-3-36)

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 703
(Northeastern Region)

COMMITTEES LIST FARM INFORMATION FROM WORK SHEETS

Work sheets turned in by farmers interested in participating in the Agricultural Conservation Program are being checked by the various County Agricultural Conservation Committees and by the State Committee, _____ _____, County Agent (or committeeman), reports.

"The committees are listing the information given on the work sheets", he says, "and are establishing final base acreage figures and individual rates of soil-conserving payments for each farm covered by a work sheet.

"When the work is finished, they will return to each farmer a copy of his adjusted work sheet. That will show him his base acreage of soil-conserving crops, and the payments for which he will be eligible if he has diverted some of his soil-depleting acreage to soil-conserving crops."

Mr. _____ said that although the work of listing work-sheet information is now going on, farmers who have not yet turned in work sheets still have time to do so if they wish to take part in the program this year.

The aim of the program is to conserve and improve farm land of the whole Nation by encouraging the best methods on individual farms. Payments will be made for approved soil-building practices as well as for diverting acreage to soil-conserving crops. The payments for practices will cover a large part of the cash cost per acre of the practices. The payments for diversion will represent part of the sacrifice of income from cash soil-depleting crops.

# # #

732-36 (7-3-36)

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 704
(Northeast Region)

LEGUMES RATE HIGH AS CROP TO BUILD SOIL

Legumes are playing an important part in the Agricultural Conservation Program which is designed to conserve and improve the farm land of the whole country by encouraging good farming methods on as many individual farms as possible, it is pointed out by _____.
(Extension official or committeeman)

He says that farmers who intend to stay on the land where they are now find that planting legumes is especially important. Legumes, he says, are the leading soil-building crops. They protect the soil from erosion; also, they increase the amount of organic matter in the soil, and add to the soil nitrogen taken from the air.

Legume hay and pastures, he says, rate high in protein and mineral salts, and in vitamins. Legumes such as soybeans, vetch, and cowpeas are especially valuable for green-manure purposes.

The growing of legumes, he points out, is among the approved soil-building practices of the Agricultural Conservation Program. Farmers still have time to plant many types of legumes this year, and participate in the program of soil improvement.

"Payments under the program", says _____, "are not a bounty. They will provide a part of the cash cost of making legume seedings, enabling farmers to plant more than they otherwise would be able to. The payments are intended to encourage building up individual farms only with the idea of putting the lands of the whole country in better order and assuring an adequate supply of agricultural products at reasonable cost."

# # #

733-36 (7-7-36)

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 705
(General)

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FARM CASH GAIN SHOWN BY AAA ANNUAL REPORT

Farm cash income from cotton, wheat, tobacco, corn, and hogs increased by 90 percent, or nearly $1\frac{1}{4}$ billion dollars, in 1935 as compared with 1932, before the adjustment programs of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration were placed in effect for these commodities, according to the 1935 annual report of the Administrator of the Act. These five commodities were the first ones for which adjustment programs were put into effect in 1933.

Cash income from the five major commodities increased from $1,365,000,000 in 1932 to $2,593,000,000 in 1935, while the cash income from all other farm products increased from $3,012,000,000 in 1932 to $4,307,000,000 in 1935.

The annual report was issued by Chester C. Davis, Administrator, during the greater portion of the period covered by the report, and recently appointed by President Roosevelt to be a member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

The price and income improvement made in the 3-year period by the five commodities which were very low in price in 1932 are cited by Mr. Davis in discussing the extent to which the objectives of the Agricultural Adjustment Act had been attained when the provisions of the act relating to production control were invalidated by the Supreme Court.

Cash available for living in 1935, after deducting wages, operating expense, taxes, and interest from farm cash income, was the largest since 1929, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ times larger than in 1932.

Mr. Davis pointed out that while prices farmers pay for services and commodities they use in production and living increased somewhat from 1932 to 1935, the purchasing power of farm cash income in 1935 was still 35 percent larger than in 1932.

In 1932 the largest farm population in the Nation's history had the smallest farm cash income recorded in the 26-year period for which records are available, Mr. Davis said.

Annual cash income from farm production increased from $4,377,000,000 in 1932 to $6,900,000,000 in 1935, or 58 percent. Nearly 25 percent of this increase was accounted for by rental and benefit payments. The remainder is attributed to increase in prices.

Mr. Davis pointed out that during the 3-year period of improvement covered by the report, increased rural sales accounted for about 40 percent of the total increase in retail trade. "Increased buying power among farmers has been translated into increased business activity", he said.

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 706
(Western Region)

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FARMERS TO PAY LOCAL EXPENSES OF FARM PROGRAM

The local county administrative costs of the 1936 Agricultural Conservation Program incurred by the County Agricultural Conservation Committees in the Western Region will be paid by participating farmers, as was done in the former wheat and other adjustment programs, _____ (State official) _____, in charge of the program in _____ (State), announces.

This method of handling local costs proved satisfactory under the former adjustment programs, Mr. _____ says, as the fact that local expenses come out of the county payments is an incentive to keep expenses at a minimum. Thus where expenses are kept to a minimum, farmers will receive correspondingly larger payments, and in determining the rates of payment this method of handling county expenses will be taken into consideration.

# # #

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 707
(Southern Region)

FARMERS CAN EARN PAYMENTS RAISING OWN LEGUME SEED

"By growing their own supply of legume seeds this year for use in 1937, farmers can qualify for payments under the Agricultural Conservation Program", Cully A. Cobb, director of the program for the Southern Region, says.

Under this program, soybeans, velvetbeans, cowpeas, and other summer legumes may earn Class II, or soil-building, payments. Special provisions, which classify these legumes as soil-conserving except when produced for seed for crushing, were included in the program for the Southern Region with the idea of encouraging farmers to produce in 1936 their own supply of seed for use in 1937.

Planting time, Cobb says, is the time to plan for the next year's seed supply, and "every farmer in the Southern Region should grow ample quantities of legume seed to meet his needs in 1937."

Cobb points out that producers may plant legume crops in rows now and qualify for adjustment payments and at the same time produce abundant supplies of seed for use in 1937. The supply for 1936 seems adequate if farmers use diligent care in making the seed cover as much land as possible to insure a satisfactory stand. In the past, there have been times when the lack of a ready supply of seed has kept farmers from growing more soil-conserving crops.

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736-36 (7-3-36)

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 708
(East Central Region)

PROGRAM CHANGES ALLOW FOOD, FEED ACREAGE INCREASE

In an effort to increase food and feed crops in areas affected by drought, modifications have been made in the Agricultural Conservation Program for the East Central Region, _____,
(County agent or State extension official)
announces.

Farmers in dry areas may grow all the food and feed acreage necessary to bring their production of food and feed on the farm up to normal without affecting payments, provided they comply with other requirements of the program, Mr. _____ points out.

For example, a producer on a farm which had a general soil-depleting base of 100 acres might have an acreage in 1936 of crops in the soil-depleting base of more than 100 acres and yet receive payment for diversion from the soil-depleting base of cotton, tobacco, and peanuts, or for carrying out soil-building practices, if the excess acreage was necessary to offset the loss of food and feed crops because of drought.

The program originally provided for deductions if the acreage in general soil-depleting crops in 1936 exceeded the general soil-depleting base for the farm.

Another change designed to help farmers in dry regions allows the planting of annual grasses or small grains for hay, or sorghums for hay or forage on farms where the production of feed has been reduced below normal by drought without classifying these crops as soil-depleting.

This means that if a farmer has complied with the program to date and is now short on feed crops, he may plant an additional acreage of these emergency crops and still receive full payment. The acreage of such crops would be disregarded in classifying the use of land.

As an example, a producer on a farm might have a soil-depleting base of 45 acres, 10 acres of which has been shifted to soil-conserving crops. The producer may plant an additional acreage of annual grasses or small grains for hay, or sorghums for hay or forage, and still receive the Class I payment for the acreage diverted.

However, a producer would not receive payment for diversion from his general soil-depleting base if the planting of food and feed crops, other than annual grasses, or small grains for hay, or sorghums for hay or forage, resulted in a general soil-depleting acreage equal to or in excess of his general base.

These modifications relate to any farm where the County Committee determines that unusual weather conditions have reduced the prospective production of food and feed crops below normal.

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 709
(East Central Region)

LOCAL EXPENSES OF FARM PROGRAM PAID BY FARMERS

The local county administrative costs of the 1936 Agricultural Conservation Program incurred by the County Agricultural Conservation Committees in the East Central Region will be paid by participating farmers, as was done in the tobacco and other adjustment programs under the Agricultural Adjustment Act, _____ (State official), in charge of the program in _____ (State), announces.

This method of handling local costs proved satisfactory under the adjustment programs, Mr. _____ says. The fact that local expenses come out of the county payments is an incentive to keep expenses at a minimum. Where expenses are kept at a minimum, farmers will receive correspondingly larger payments.

# # #

738-36 (7-3-36)

United States Department of Agriculture, Extension Service and
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(North Central Region)

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FARMERS URGED TO NOTE PROVISION OF 1936 FARM PROGRAM

Farmers cooperating under the 1936 farm program and who plan to pasture or clip small grains now being used as nurse crops for legumes or grasses are urged by County Agent (or, County Committeeman) _____ to observe a program provision recently announced by the State Committee.

The provision is stated as follows: "Any acreage of rye, oats, wheat, barley, or grain mixtures used as a nurse crop and clipped green or pastured sufficiently to prevent grain formation shall be regarded as devoted to the production of a soil-conserving crop ONLY if this acreage is in a solid block on the entire side or end of a field and if the line between the clipped or pastured portion and the remaining portion of the field is straight."

Acreages clipped here and there over the field, or just around the edge of the entire field will not be counted as soil-conserving acres when the extent of performance is checked on the farm later in the year, Mr. _____ explained.

County Agent (or Committeeman) _____ also reminds farmers that just the clipping or pasturing of small grains will not qualify farmers for soil-conserving payments. The small grains so clipped or pastured must have served as nurse crops for soil-conserving grasses or legumes, and they must not have farmed grain before this operation was done.

# # #

739-36 (7-3-36)

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 711
(North Central Region)

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COUNTY AVERAGE PAYMENTS BASED ON PRODUCTIVITY

County Agent (or, County Committee Chairman) _____ reminds _____ County farmers that the average county rate of the
(Name of county)
soil-conserving (Class I) payment, which was announced recently, IS NOT necessarily the rate which each individual farmer will receive for diverting acreage under the 1936 Agricultural Conservation Program.

The average rate for _____ County is $_____ an acre. This rate applies only to diversion from the acreage of general soil-depleting crops such as corn, oats, wheat, and barley.

The individual farm rates will be higher or lower than the county average, depending upon the productivity of the individual farm, just as the county rates for counties all over the country are higher or lower than the national average of $10 an acre, depending upon the productivity of the land in each county.

It is only natural that the county rates should be lower or higher than the national average, _____ says. In some areas where the soil is less productive, rates are less than the national average. Usually in these areas land values are lower and the rate represents about the same proportion of the productivity of the land as higher rates do in counties of better soil.

The productivity indexes, upon which the county rates of payment are based, were computed by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration on the basis of the yields of the 13 principal soil-depleting crops in each county in the 10-year period 1923 to 1932, inclusive, as determined from available statistics in the Department of Agriculture. Necessary adjustments were made for crop failure. The relative acreage of each crop in the county also was taken into consideration in computing the productivity index.

740-36 (7-3-36)

# # #

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 712
(Southern Region)

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF

AAA SEES NEED FOR AN ADEQUATE LEGUME ACREAGE

The importance of adequate legume acreage and its place in a sound farming system is recognized in the provisions of the Agricultural Conservation Program, _____, county agent, says.

In pointing out the importance of legumes, _____ said that legumes protect the soil from erosion and conserve moisture and plant food by preventing rapid run-off of surface water.

When plowed under, or left on the land, legumes increase the fertility of the soil, adding to it nitrogen taken from the air. Of the three plant-food elements which farmers commonly buy to apply to their soil--nitrogen, potash, and phosphorus--nitrogen can be supplied by legumes. Any green-manure crop turned under adds organic matter and improves the mechanical condition of the soil, prevents packing or crusting, and increases the water-holding capacity. Poor stands of crops can often be attributed to poor mechanical condition of the soil because of deficient organic matter.

In addition to saving the soil, legumes save money for the farmer, _____ points out, by reducing feed bills, when the acreage is adequate for pasture and hay, and aiding in maintaining the health of livestock at a maximum point of vigor. Legume hay and pastures rate high in vitamins, protein and mineral salts, particularly lime and phosphates.

To qualify for payments under the Agricultural Conservation Program, seedings of alfalfa, sericea, and kudzu, made alone or in connection with perennial grasses, may earn a soil-building, or Class II, payment of $2 per

acre, when seeded on cropland between January 1, 1936, and October 31, 1936, inclusive. Red clover, mammoth clover, sweetclover, and annual lespedeza may earn $1.50 per acre, and alsike, white, bur, and crimson clover, Austrian winter peas, vetch, and other locally adapted winter legumes, may earn $1 per acre, when seeded on cropland between January 1, 1936, and October 31, 1936, inclusive. Mixtures of legumes and nonlegumes which contain 50 percent or more of alsike, white, bur, or crimson clover, Austrian winter peas, vetch, or other locally adapted winter legumes, may earn $1 per acre. However, _____ _____ points out, the amount of such legume seedings per acre must be normal for the area and in accordance with practices approved by the State agricultural conservation committee.

Soybeans, velvetbeans, cowpeas, crotalaria, beggar weed, and other locally adapted summer legumes, if grown on cropland in 1936, and vines or stalks left on land and seed not harvested for oil-mill crushing, may earn $1.50 per acre. If plowed under green, they may earn $2 per acre, _____ says.

Crimson clover, bur clover, Austrian winter peas, vetch, and other locally adapted winter legumes, may earn $1.50 per acre, when turned under between January 1, 1936, and October 31, 1936.

Any sorghum, Sudan grass, or millet, seeded solid or broadcast, may also earn $1 per acre, when seeded between January 1, 1936, and July 31, 1936, and all the crop is left on the land or plowed under.

(NOTE TO EDITOR: Delete practices not especially applicable to your State and stress those especially desirable.)

_____ or members of the county or State committee can advise farmers in _____ County on these practices and rates of payment, showing what it will be necessary to do in order to qualify for payments.

# # #

741-36 (7-3-36)

United States Department of Agriculture, Extension Service and
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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 713
(General)

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OUTLET SOUGHT IN DOMESTIC EGG FLUSH MARKET

New outlets for domestic eggs are being sought through a research project inaugurated by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, and conducted by the Poultry Section of the Division of Marketing and Marketing Agreements.

Since 50 percent of the annual production of eggs is produced during the four spring months of March, April, May, and June, a surplus of eggs above immediate domestic consumption requirements piles up during that period. This surplus is carried over into less productive seasons by two methods, cold storage of shell eggs and cold storage of "canned" eggs, that is, breaking the eggs out of the shell, putting them into cans, and holding in a frozen condition until needed by the trade.

It is believed with more outlets made available for eggs, more stable conditions in the industry might result with considerable benefits to producers, consumers, and to the handlers of eggs.

One known outlet is in the drying field, which has been used successfully in other countries, although attempts in the past to establish it here have been transitory. In this study it will be necessary to give attention to uses of dried-egg products, the cost of producing dried eggs, methods for drying, desirable months for drying, and capacity of plants in the country to handle the production.

Such an analysis would also include a study of the effect which diverting eggs into drying channels would have on consumers' and producers' prices to see that disadvantages would not result to either group.

749-36 (7-8-36)

# # #

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 714
(North Central Region)

LEGUMES RATED HIGH AS CROPS TO BUILD SOIL

"The idea of the Agricultural Conservation Program is to conserve and improve the farm land of the whole country by encouraging good farming methods on as many individual farms as possible", says J. F. Cox, Chief of the Crops Replacement Section, Agricultural Adjustment Administration. "Growing legumes is one of those methods."

Legumes, he says, are the leading soil-building crops. They protect the soil from erosion; also, they increase the amount of organic matter in the soil, and the amount of nitrogen, which is gathered through the bacteria that live in nodules on the roots of legumes.

Legume hay and pastures, he says, rate high in protein and mineral salts, and in vitamins. Legumes such as soybeans, hairy vetch, and cowpeas are especially valuable when plowed under as green-manure crops.

The growing of legumes, Cox points out, is among the approved soil-building practices of the Agricultural Conservation Program. Farmers still have time to plant some of the legume crops this year, and to participate to a greater extent in the program of soil improvement.

# # #

750-36 (7-8-36)

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 715
(North Central Region)

FARM WOOD LOT ELIGIBLE TO AID IN SOIL BUILDING

JUL 1 3

Planting trees for farm wood lots is one of the practices encouraged by the Agricultural Conservation Program.

_____, County Agent (or committeeman), points out that much of our present hillside pasture is washing badly, and is not providing any appreciable pasturage. A farm wood lot on such land would check heavy run-off of rainfall which otherwise would cause erosion and result in serious floods. In addition the wood lot can provide income from land that otherwise would be unprofitable.

"The farm wood lot," _____ says, "serves as a source of fence posts, poles, timber, and fuel. Plantings of black locust will reach fence-post size in from 6 to 10 years. Trees also will afford feed and shelter for wild game and bird life; they will protect fields and buildings on the farm if they are properly placed as windbreaks.

"The fall is a good time of the year to transplant many of the trees that are best suited to farm wood lots."

Farmers who plant trees for farm woodlots on crop or noncrop pasture land will be eligible for soil-building payments of five dollars an acre, within the limits of their soil-building allowance _____ points out. That rate will cover part of the cash cost of a practice which will improve the individual farm, and contribute to the national effort to improve and conserve soil of the whole country.

(SUGGESTION TO EDITOR--Consult local specialist and insert State recommendations as to plantings.)

# # #

751-36 (7-8-36)

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 716
(North Central Region)

APPLYING LIME ENCOURAGED BY SOILS PROGRAM

Application of lime and fertilizer needed on much of the land devoted to soil-conserving crops in _____ constitutes part of the soil-building practices that are encouraged by the Agricultural Conservation Program.
(State)

_____ _____, County Agent, (or committeeman) says that in this part of the country lime is needed on most soils in order to get the best results with alfalfa and sweetclover, and also with some of the other clovers. Lime, he points out, not only sweetens the soil but also provides the available calcium and magnesium needed by legumes.

Lime can be applied to advantage during the summer or fall, when preparing seed beds. It also can be applied to pastures at any convenient time in the summer or fall, and on meadows after the hay crop has been cut.

_____ points out that in addition to lime, many soils need certain other fertilizers of mineral supplements in order to get satisfactory stands of soil-conserving crops. Phosphates and potash also are on the list of soil-building practices from which farmers, who are taking part in the agricultural conservation program, may choose.

He says that farmers who use one or more of the approved practices will be eligible for soil-building payments up to the limit of their soil-building allowances. The rates per acre will cover part of the cash cost of the fertilizer. The Government is making the payments in a national effort to

(more)

improve and conserve farm land by encouraging the best practices on individual farms.

County Agent _____ urges farmers who use lime or adopt other approved soil-building practices to obtain evidence that the practice was performed. This evidence may be needed when performance is checked on the farm later this year.

(SUGGESTION TO EDITOR--Consult local specialist and add any material relative to approved substitutes for your State.)

# # #

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FARM WOOD LOT ELIGIBLE TO AID IN SOIL BUILDING

Planting farm wood lots is one of the practices encouraged by the Agricultural Conservation Program.

_____ _____, County Agent (or committeeman), points out that much of our present hillside pasture is washing badly, and is not providing any appreciable pasturage. A farm wood lot planted on such land can check heavy run-off of rainfall which causes erosion and results in serious floods. In addition the wood lot can provide income from land that otherwise would be unprofitable.

"The farm wood lot", _____ says, "serves as a source of fence posts, poles, timber, and fuel. Plantings of black locust will reach fence-post size in from 6 to 10 years. Wood lots can include nut-bearing trees, and also hard maples that yield maple sirup. Trees also will afford feed and shelter for wild game and bird life; they will protect fields and buildings on the farm if they are properly placed as windbreaks.

"The fall is a good time of the year to transplant many of the trees that are best suited to farm wood lots."

Farmers who plant wood lots on crop or pasture land will be eligible for soil-building payments of five dollars an acre, within the limits of their soil-building allowance, _____ points out. That rate will cover part of the cash cost of a practice which will improve the individual farm, and contribute to the national effort to improve and conserve soil of the whole country.

753-36 (7-8-36)

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(Northeastern Region)

APPLYING LIME ENCOURAGED BY SOILS PROGRAM

Application of lime and fertilizers needed on much of the land devoted to soil-conserving crops in _____ makes up a group of the soil-building
(State)
practices that are encouraged by the Agricultural Conservation Program.

_____ _____, County Agent, (or committeeman) says that in this part of the country lime is needed on most soils in order to get the best results with alfalfa, clover and sweetclover. Lime, he points out, not only sweetens the soil but also provides the available calcium and magnesium needed by legumes. He adds that applying lime to the soil improves the calcium content of pasture and hay, and thus increases the feeding value of those crops for milk and livestock production.

He says that lime can be applied to advantage during the summer or fall, when fitting seedbeds. Also it can be applied to pastures at any convenient time in the summer or fall, and on meadows after the hay crop has been cut.

_____ points out that in addition to lime, many soil-conserving crops in this part of the country need certain fertilizers. Combinations of these fertilizers are on the list from which farmers, who are taking part in the Agricultural Conservation Program, may choose.

He says that farmers who use one or more of the approved practices will be eligible for soil-building payments up to the limit of their soil-building allowances. The rates per acre will cover part of the cash cost of the fertilizer. The Government is making the payments in a national effort to improve and conserve farm land by encouraging the best practices on individual farms.

754-36 (7-8-36)

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DROUGHT FIGHT AID GIVEN FARMERS BY NEW SOIL PROGRAM

In an effort to help farmers adjust their farming operations to meet the emergency caused by the drought, a number of modifications have been made in the 1936 Agricultural Conservation Program, _____ (County agent or State extension official) _____, announced today.

One of these modifications relates to the minimum acreage of soil-conserving crops. Formerly, if a farmer did not have a conserving acreage at least equal to the sum of 15 percent of his general soil-depleting base and 20 percent of his cotton, tobacco, and peanut soil-depleting bases, a deduction was made from the total amount of the Class I and Class II payments.

Now, if a farmer falls short of the minimum acreage requirements, a deduction will be made only from the Class I payment. That is, the farmer will be paid for the soil-building practices carried out without being required to have any given percentage of the land on his farm devoted to soil-conserving crops.

The above modification does not affect the soil-building allowance, nor the limit which it places upon the amount of the Class II payment.

Another modification provides that land from which wheat is harvested in 1936, which is grown in combination with or immediately followed by a legume, will be classified as one-half used for soil-conserving crops for the purpose of meeting requirements for minimum soil-conserving acreage and

(more)

759-36

new seedings of soil-conserving crops. The entire acreage from which wheat is harvested in 1936 still is considered as soil-depleting, however, for all other purposes of the program. The change will enable those producers who have not been able to seed soil-conserving crops this year on land other than the wheat acreage to receive credit for such crops seeded in wheat.

Also, soybeans cut for hay in Kentucky, West Virginia, Maryland, and Delaware will be classified this year as soil-conserving if this crop is followed by a winter cover crop. In these States, acreage devoted to soybean hay previously was classified as soil depleting.

A further modification has been approved which allows small farmers and others to be paid for additional cotton base acreage planted to soil-conserving crops. This modification provides that if a farmer has a cotton soil-depleting base of five acres or less, he may divert up to two acres and receive full payment. Previously, the maximum diversion for which payment could be made was 35 percent of the cotton base.

Another change permits a farmer to count as soil-conserving, for purposes of meeting minimum requirements for soil-conserving crops, any acreage from which vegetables (including potatoes and sweet potatoes), bulbs, or flowers are harvested in 1936 and followed by a winter cover crop or green-manure crop plowed or disked under between January 1, 1936, and October 31, 1936, after having gained at least two months of growth.

Mr. _____ points out that these provisions are in addition to the two modifications recently announced by the AAA regarding the production of food and feed crops on drought-stricken farms.

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759-36 (7-8-36)

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PROGRAM CHANGE ALLOWS FOOD, FEED ACREAGE INCREASE

In an effort to increase food and feed crops in areas affected by drought, a change has been made in the Agricultural Conservation Program for the Southern Region, _____ _____, announces.
(County agent or State extension official)

The modification provides that farmers in dry areas may grow all the food and feed acreage necessary to bring their production of food and feed on the farm up to normal without affecting payments for diverting cotton, peanuts, or tobacco, provided they comply with other requirements of the program, Mr. _____ points out.

For example, a producer on a farm which had a general soil-depleting base of 100 acres might have an acreage in 1936 of crops in the general soil-depleting base of more than 100 acres and yet receive full payment for diversion from the soil-depleting base of cotton, tobacco, and peanuts, or for carrying out soil-building practices, if the excess acreage was necessary to offset the loss of food and feed crops because of drought.

However, a producer will not receive payment for diversion from his general soil-depleting base if the planting of food and feed crops resulted in a general soil-depleting acreage equal to or in excess of his general base.

This modification relates to any farm where the County Committee determines that unusual weather conditions have reduced the prospective production of food and feed crops below normal.

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760-36 (7-8-36)

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REVISION IN FARM PROGRAM EXPLAINED TO STATE FARMERS

_____ farmers cooperating in the 1936 Agricultural Conservation Program who grow a smaller acreage of soil-depleting crops this year than in 1935, and who make a corresponding increase in soil-conserving crops, will qualify for at least a part of the total soil-conserving (Class I) payment which they would earn if they made the maximum diversion from the base established for the farm.
(Name of State)

This modification in program provisions is explained by _____ _____, Chairman of the Agricultural Conservation Committee (or State Extension Director).

Before this revision was made, a cooperating farmer became ineligible for a soil-conserving payment, and his soil-building (Class II) payment was subject to deduction, if the acreage of all general soil-depleting crops such as corn, oats, wheat, and barley grown on the farm in 1936 was larger than his base.

A farm's base is the normal or usual acreage of soil-depleting crops grown on the farm. In establishing the base, the total acreage in soil-depleting crops harvested last year was used as a starting point. This acreage was then adjusted so that the final base established was normal for the farm and equitable with bases established for similar farms in the community.

(more)

763-36

Even though the revision has been made, the normal base is being retained as the true base for the farm and as the principal guide in determining the amount of soil-conserving payment a farmer may receive.

The amount of soil-conserving payment for which a farmer may qualify under the new modification is shown by the following example:

A farmer harvested 120 acres of soil-depleting crops on his farm last year. The base established for the farm, however, is 100 acres. In order to qualify for the maximum Class I payment, this farmer would have to divert the difference between his 1935 acreage and his base, or 20 acres, plus 15 percent of his base, or 15 acres -- a total of 35 acres. If he made this diversion, and if the per-acre payment for his farm is $10 an acre, he would qualify for a Class I payment of $150.

This year, 106 acres are planted to soil-conserving crops on the farm. Instead of making the maximum diversion of 35 acres, he has diverted 14 acres from his 1935 acreage. Therefore, this farmer would qualify for a Class I payment of 14/35 of $150, or $60.

If this modification had not been made, the farmer -- even though he had contributed to the objectives of the program -- would have been ineligible for a Class I payment. In addition, a total of $60 -- the 6 acres in excess of his base times $10 an acre -- would have been deducted from any other payment to which he otherwise would have been entitled.

The new change in provisions, Mr. _____ pointed out, will be welcomed by many farmers, especially those in areas where the drought in 1934 and floods in 1935 caused farmers to plant an abnormally large acreage of soil-depleting crops last year. Pastures and clovers that were ruined were replaced by soil-depleting crops to provide temporary roughage. The

(more)

revision, he said, will encourage these farmers to return to more normal farming practices.

Likewise the revision will be beneficial to farmers, who, because of the limited time in getting the program under way last spring, were not notified of their bases until it was so late that it was difficult for them to make the necessary adjustments in their farming operations.

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DROUGHT AGENCY IS ESTABLISHED AT KANSAS CITY

The Federal Livestock Feed Agency which has been established at Kansas City, Missouri, as a clearing house for information on feed and livestock, will provide an important service to farmers in the drought-affected areas, _____ _____, county agent (or committeeman), said.

The Agency will furnish buyers of feed in drought areas information as to supplies of various kinds of feeds, price, and sources from which the supplies might be obtained at least cost. It also will list, without costs, for farmers, shippers, dealers, jobbers, and feed manufacturers, information on grain, feed, hay, or forage which they may have for sale and available for shipment to drought areas.

A similar service will be set up for sellers and purchasers of livestock.

The Agency itself will not buy or sell feed or livestock, or make loans, _____ said. It will help farmers and livestock feeders to locate surplus supplies of feed for purchase at the lowest cost, and will facilitate the sale and transfer of cattle from regions where there is a shortage of feed supplies, water, and pasture.

A Drought Market News Service will be issued weekly to farmers, county agricultural agents, State officials, feed dealers, and all other persons interested to keep them informed currently as to available supplies, demand, market movement, and prices, _____ said.

(more)

764-36

E. O. Pollock, of the Agricultural Extension Service, will head this Agency, which will be operated by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. It will be similar to the information service set up during the fall and winter of 1934-35. As in 1934, the Agency will bring together the buyers and sellers of the more common feeds, as well as of livestock and will assist persons unaccustomed to purchasing feed in locating supplies at the lowest cost. At the outset in 1934, approximately 2 million tons of hay and other roughages were listed by the Agency for farmers who had feed and forage for sale.

Feed dealers, farmers, and others who have surplus feed or forage are urged to list with the Agency the kinds and quantities that they have available for sale and shipment to drought areas.

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764-36 (7-8-36)

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(East Central Region)

PERENNIAL GRASSES MAY BE USED TO DRAW CLASS II PAYMENTS

_____ announces that soil-
(County agent or State extension official)

building payments will be made to farmers for seeding perennial grasses under the 1936 Agricultural Conservation Program.

These rates range from 75 cents to $2 an acre, depending upon the kind of grass seeded.

The rates for seeding these crops (between January 1, 1936, and October 31, 1936), with or without a nurse crop, are as follows:

1. Bluegrass, $2 an acre.
2. Orchard grass; or, permanent pasture mixtures of grasses or of grasses and legumes, at least 40 percent bluegrass, $1.50 an acre.
3. Permanent pasture mixtures of grasses or of grasses and legumes, at least 40 percent orchard grass, $1.25 an acre.
4. Redtop; or, permanent pasture mixtures of grasses or of grasses and legumes, at least 40 percent redtop, 75 cents an acre.

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789-36 (7-16-36)

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FARM WOODLAND ELIGIBLE TO AID IN SOIL BUILDING

Planting trees on farm land is one of the soil-building practices encouraged by the Agricultural Conservation Program.

Much of the sloping farm land in this country is washing badly, and is not providing any appreciable production of crops or pasturage, _____ (County agent or State extension official) _____, points out. Trees planted on such land can check heavy run-off of rainfall which causes erosion. In addition the woodland can provide income from land that otherwise would not be profitable.

"The farm woodland" _____ says, "serves as a source of fence posts, poles, timber, and fuel. Woodland can include nut-bearing trees. The trees also will afford feed and shelter for wild game and bird life; they will protect fields and buildings on the farm if they are properly placed as windbreaks.

"The fall is a good time of the year to transplant many of the trees that are best suited to farm woodland."

Farmers who plant trees on crop or pasture land, between January 1, 1936, and October 31, 1936, will be eligible for soil-building payments of five dollars an acre, within the limits of their soil-building allowance, _____ explained.

This practice will improve the individual farm, and contribute to the national effort to improve and conserve the soil of the whole country.

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790-36 (7-16-36)

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 725
(Southern Region)

FARM WOODLAND QUALIFIES GROWER FOR SOIL PAYMENT

"Trees planted on steep and eroded land are effective in stopping erosion and will provide an income from otherwise unprofitable soil", _____, county agent, says. Planting trees for farm woodland is one of the practices encouraged by the Agricultural Conservation Program.

Trees on hillside pasture and cropland would check heavy run-off of rainfall which otherwise would cause erosion and contribute to serious floods.

In addition the woodland can provide income from otherwise unprofitable land, _____ says. The woodland serves as a source of fence posts, poles and timber, and fuel needed on the farm. Plantings of black locust will reach fence-post size in from 8 to 12 years. Trees also will afford protection for wild game and bird life. They will protect fields and buildings on the farm if they are placed properly as windbreaks.

Although late fall or early winter is the best time for planting forest trees, the summer season can be used advantageously in plowing and cultivating the land to be planted, _____ says.

Farmers who planted trees after September 1, 1935, or do so before October 31, 1936, will be eligible for soil-building payments of $5 an acre, within the limits of their soil-building allowance, _____ points out. That rate will cover part of the cash cost of a practice that will improve the individual farm, and contribute to the national effort to improve and conserve the soil of the whole country.

(NOTE TO EDITOR: Consult local specialist and insert State recommendations as to plantings.)

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 726
(Southern Region)

COUNTY AGENT SAYS SOIL ALLOWANCE IS LIKE BANK ACCOUNT

County Agent _____, in explaining payment features of the 1936 Agricultural Conservation Program said today that the soil-building allowance is similar to a bank account.

_____ pointed out that one dollar is credited to the farmer's soil-building allowance for each acre of cropland on his farm, used in 1936 for soil-conserving crops, or for each acre of idle cropland on which terraces are properly constructed in 1936. The size of a farmer's soil-building allowance will therefore depend largely upon the number of acres that he devotes to soil-conserving crops in 1936.

At the time the producer makes application for payment, he will show the acres on his farm devoted to soil-conserving crops and the number of dollar of his soil-building allowance will be equal to the number of acres of soil-conserving crops, _____ said.

Some of the crops which a farmer may still plant and some of the practices which he may put into effect on his farm which will further enlarge his soil-building allowance are: Summer legumes planted on land from which no othe crop is harvested, or planted following small grains; growing and leaving on the land sorghums and millet; planting winter legumes on idle cropland; Sudan grass, grown on land from which no other crop is harvested; properly terracing idle cropland; peanuts pastured; and green-manure crops following truck and

(Note to Extension Editor: Delete crops and/or practices not applicable in your State.)

800-36

vegetable crops; _____ said.

The only way a farmer can make withdrawals from his "soil-building bank account" is by putting into effect approved soil-building practices before October 31, 1936. For example, a farmer may receive $1.50 for each acre of soybeans, velvetbeans, cowpeas, and other summer legumes grown if the vines or stalks are left on the land; or he may receive $2 for each acre of these crops turned under green. For each acre of crimson clover, bur-clover, Austrian winter peas, vetch, and other locally adapted winter legumes planted before October 21, 1936, a grower may receive $1. For each acre of any sorghum, Sudan grass, or millet, planted before July 31, 1936, and all the crop left on the land or turned under, a farmer may receive $1. The total of the Class II payments cannot exceed the total of the soil-building allowance.

_____ said that at the time of making application for payment, the farmer will list the soil-building practices put into effect on his land and indicate the number of acres devoted to each. The amount of the payment due the farmer will be determined by multiplying the acres on which he has carried out soil-building practices by the rate for each practice. This will be his soil-building payment provided it does not exceed the amount of his soil-building allowance.

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HAY AND FORAGE SUPPLIES LISTED FOR DROUGHT AID

The principal functions of the Federal Livestock Feed Agency, 755 Livestock Exchange Building, Kansas City, Mo., are to bring buyer and seller both of feed and livestock, together, says _____.
County agent (or committeeman)

Sources for supply of feed for livestock are listed in Kansas City, according to E. O. Pollock, who has charge of the agency, Information only as to quantities on land and prices will be furnished buyers upon request, and without cost, but orders will not be accepted by the agency. Sales must be arranged by the principals themselves.

Farmers, shippers, dealers, and jobbers who have hay or forage on hand already have listed a considerable quantity with the agency, which is available now for farmers or livestock feeders who can finance their own purchases. Feed loans will not be made by the agency. All inquiries should be addressed directly to the Kansas City agency whether by individuals, associations, or groups desiring either to buy or to sell.

Persons with a surplus of feed should be urged to list it with the agency as available for shipment to the drought areas, and persons in need of feed who cannot obtain it through regular commercial channels at a reasonable cost should request the agency to inform them where they should be able to purchase feed at the lowest cost.

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801-36 (7-17-36)

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FARMERS SHOULD APPLY DIRECT FOR DROUGHT ADVICE

Farmers in the drought area with cattle for sale will be put in touch with persons desiring to buy cattle, and those with pastures for lease will be put in touch with persons in need of pasture, through the Federal Livestock Feed Agency, 755 Livestock Exchange Building, Kansas City, Mo., according to _____ _____ county agent (or committeeman).

The Agency will advise livestock owners in the drought areas in order to facilitate the sale and transfer of cattle from regions where there is a shortage of feed supplies and water. The Agency will act as a central clearing house for feed and livestock information, but will not buy or sell feed or livestock or make feed loans.

The Agency will furnish information as to the procedure to be followed in obtaining emergency freight rates on livestock leaving the drought area and in obtaining inspection of grain and hay, information on the method of sale of hay and other feeds, and the dissemination of information relative to the supply, demand, and price of feed and livestock.

A drought news bulletin will be issued to farmers, agricultural officials, county agents, feed dealers, and other persons interested in keeping informed currently as to available supplies, demand, and the market movement of feed and livestock.

An inspection service, an extension of the regular service offered by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, will be provided by the Agency to, as far as possible, determine the grade and class of hay and other roughage offered for shipment to the drought areas or received at stations in the drought territory.

All requests for information should be addressed directly to the Agency, E. O. Pollock, in charge.

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802-36 (7-17-36)

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(General)

FEED IN DROUGHT AREA IS INCREASED BY SOIL PROGRAM

Because of the Agricultural Conservation Program for 1936, more livestock feed will be grown on farms in the drought area this year than would have been grown if there had been no program, according to J. B. Hutson, acting administrator of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration.

Data on feed stocks on farms show that supplies have increased during the years the programs were in effect, Mr. Hutson said.

"The new program encourages the planting of crops that are drought-resistant and relatively productive of feed under drought conditions, while at the same time they build up or maintain soil fertility and prevent soil erosion", Hutson said.

Experience in the drought of 1934, the worst that has befallen this country since the Civil War, demonstrated the feed-producing possibilities in a dry year of the very same crops which the new AAA Conservation Program seeks to increase.

Mr. Hutson pointed out that grasses and legumes are the crops which best withstand drought. Although they may yield less than normal when moisture is deficient, they make the most efficient use of moisture when it comes. The cultivated crops, such as corn, wheat, oats, barley, and other grain crops, suffer far more from extreme drought than do alfalfa, sweetclover, lespedeza, brome grass, wheat grass, Sudan grass, millet, and sorghums, which, even with meager moisture, will produce feed for livestock.

The 1936 program is designed to provide for balanced production of food and feed. "When farmers practice the kind of balanced farming they know is best for their farms, they are practicing preparedness for unusual conditions, such as drought and flood", Mr. Hutson said.

803-36 (7-17-36) # # #

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FEED AGENCY OPEN EARLIER THAN FOR 1934 DROUGHT AID

The present drought situation, which closely rivals that of 1934 in intensity, is even more wide-spread than that of 2 years ago, and as a result the Federal Livestock Feed Agency, 755 Livestock Exchange, Kansas City, Mo., has been opened somewhat earlier than in the last emergency, according to _____.
(County agent or extension official)

This was done with the view of aiding in the conservation and efficient distribution of surplus feedstuffs of all kinds, in order that the supplies of the more commonly used hay and roughages which promised to be materially shortened by the lack of rainfall, may be sufficiently augmented to carry the Nation's livestock through the coming winter.

In the 1934 drought emergency, the distribution of corn fodder, feeding straw, soybean hay, and many other classes of forage and roughage not ordinarily marketed through regular trade channels, played an important part in carrying livestock until new crop feeds became available in the spring growing season of 1935. It is advised that farmers conserve as much feed as possible at this time, and should be in readiness to plant quick-maturing annual forages in case enough rain is received in time for seeding crops to mature before frost. The 1934 drought did not break until the latter part of August, but considerable forage was seeded at that time, which added greatly to the roughage supplies for home use. Corn that will not make grain should be cut and saved as fodder for winter feeding.

812-36 (7-24-36) # # #

United States Department of Agriculture, Extension Service and
Agricultural Adjustment Administration, Cooperating
Washington, D. C.

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AUG 19 1936
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 731
Western Region
Southern Region
East Central Region
North Central Region

DROUGHT BULLETIN IS ISSUED WEEKLY FROM KANSAS CITY

Current information for farmers, county agricultural agents, State officials, feed and livestock dealers, and all other persons interested in available supplies of feed, and demand, market movement and prices for feed and livestock, can be obtained, according to _____ county agent, from the Federal Livestock-Feed Agency, 755 Livestock Exchange, Kansas City, Mo.

Any person interested should write direct to that agency and request that his name be placed on its list to receive the "Special Drought News Bulletin", which will be issued weekly so long as emergency conditions warrant, by the United States Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

It will be the purpose of the agency to furnish buyers of feed in drought areas information on supplies of various kinds of feeds, price, and sources from which the supplies might be obtained at least cost. The agency also will list, without cost, for farmers, shippers, dealers, jobbers, and feed manufacturers, information on grain, feed, hay, or forage which they have for sale and available for shipment to drought areas. A similar service will be set up for sellers and purchasers of livestock. The agency, itself, will not buy or sell feed or livestock, or make loans but will aid in facilitating the sale and transfer of cattle from regions where there is a shortage of feed supplies, water, and pasture.

813-36 (more)

The Federal Livestock Feed Agency will make every effort to aid in the distribution of feed with the least possible disturbance to the feed industry. In normal times, the industry has demonstrated its ability to adequately perform this operation. As in 1934, the agency will bring together buyers and sellers of livestock and the more common feeds, and will assist persons unaccustomed to purchasing feed in locating supplies at the lowest cost. Through this service, the agency in 1934 served to stabilize prices, and to prevent speculation, which under abnormal conditions causes undue advances in prices.

# # #

813-36 (7-24-36)

United States Department of Agriculture, Extension Service and
Agricultural Adjustment Administration, Cooperating
Washington, D. C.

RELEASE: Immediate WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 732
DISTRIBUTION: EXCLUSIVE TO State (Northeast Region)
extension editors

AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FARMERS WATCHING
SEED SUPPLIES OF
GRASSES, LEGUMES

Dry weather, and the needs of farmers who plan to take part in the Agricultural Conservation Program next year, are making farmers take special interest in supplies of seed of soil-conserving crops, _____ _____, county agent (or committeeman), says.

In most areas of the State, he points out, farmers are planning to grow as large a quantity of roughage as possible to meet livestock needs. Aside from this result of drought, many farmers are giving special attention to seed supplies of the grasses and legumes that will be encouraged next year under the conservation program.

"For those reasons", Mr. _____ says, "the seed supply for fall and spring planting of adapted soil-conserving crops is unusually important. Early reports by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics show that the bluegrass, orchard grass, red top, and meadow fescue seed crops are about one-half as large as the seed crops of last year. Definite reports on timothy are not yet available, but the effects of drought will be reflected in the supply of seed. It still is too early to estimate the seed crops of alfalfa, red clover, and lespedeza, but severe drought has affected the regions that produce the major part of the seed supply of those crops.

"It is apparent that in many areas there will be an unusual demand for hay and pasture, due to the drought. Seed crops may not only be reduced by the drought, but in many cases they will not be harvested because of needs for emergency hay and pasture.

814-36 (more)

"Farmers may meet this situation by substituting emergency feed crops for more permanent grasses and legumes and harvesting the seed from such grasses and legumes, provided the seed produced on their farms will give satisfactory results.

"Where it is practicable for farmers to harvest the seeds of soil-conserving crops they may not only supply their own needs but also those of their neighbors."

Mr. _____ adds that county agents, State college agronomists and other qualified individuals will be glad to give advice on the seed situation in the State and on how to harvest, cure, store, and clean seed crops.

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United States Department of Agriculture, Extension Service and
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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 733
(Northeastern Region)

AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

PREPARING FOR 1936
SEEDINGS IS ADDED
TO SOIL PRACTICES

Preparing cropland this year for seeding grasses and legumes next spring was recently added to the State's list of approved soil-building practices under the Agricultural Conservation Program. _____ _____, county agent (or committeeman) says that the addition will encourage applying lime and superphosphate to the soil several months before seedings are made. State agronomists have found that this practice is frequently the best way of getting ground ready for seeding grasses and legumes.

"The new list contains several different lime and superphosphate treatments", Mr. _____ says, "so that a farmer may pick one that exactly fits the requirements of his land. The payments for the practice will cover part of the cost of the lime and superphosphate used.

"Preparing land in such a way will count as a soil-building practice this year; and payments made therefor will come out of each farm's soil-building allowance. However, payments for the new practice will be made only in cases where the county committee satisfies itself that the farmer definitely will make the seedings of grasses and legumes next spring."

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815-36 (7-24-36)

United States Department of Agriculture, Extension Service and
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Washington, D. C.

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 734
(Northeastern Region)

AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS U.S. Department of Agriculture

FENCING LIVESTOCK OUT OF WOOD LOTS HELPS SAVE SOIL

A recent change in the Agricultural Conservation Program, which made fencing farm wood lots one of the approved soil-building practices for the State, is interesting many farmers, _____ _____, county agent, (or committeeman) says.

The new practice for fencing out livestock applies only to wood lots which previously have been used for pasture.

"Considerable woodland acreage in the State is used for pasture", Mr. _____ points out. "That practice is not in line with either good wood-lot management or soil-conservation principles. Livestock destroy the soil cover and new forest growth. They also pack the soil and injure tree roots. As a result forest cover is gradually depleted, and forest soil loses its ability to absorb and hold water. Rainwater runs off faster and in greater volume, causing erosion on fields on lower levels, and contributing to floods.

"Fencing livestock out of wood lots helps to prevent such destruction, and thus is in line with long-range conservation practice. One of the chief reasons why more farmers do not fence their wood lots is the cost of putting up fences. The Agricultural Conservation Program now provides for payments that cover part of the cost of the fencing materials."

Mr. _____ says that two rates of payment are provided: 15 cents per rod for two strands of barbed wire and 20 cents a rod for three strands of barbed wire. The 20-cent payment also will be made for constructing woven wire

fences at least 24 inches high with one strand of barbed wire. In all cases, posts are to be not more than a rod apart. Payment will be made for such fences built between July 1, 1936, and December 1, 1936. On any farm, total payments for building fences and using any other approved soil-building practices cannot be larger than the farm's soil-building allowance.

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United States Department of Agriculture, Extension Service and
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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 735
(Southern Region)

CROP INSURANCE UNDER AAA IS AID TO FARMERS

"Ways in which the Agricultural Conservation Program provides insurance for cooperating producers are interesting _____ farmers more and more as they are
(State)
feeling the effects of drought, floods, grasshoppers, and other crop destroyers",

_____ , said. (NOTE: Delete those not
(County agent or State extension official)
applicable in your State.)

In pointing out the insurance features of the program, _____ said that the cooperating producer who diverts 35 percent of his base cotton acreage, for instance, to soil-conserving crops, is assured approximately 5 cents a pound on the 35 percent of his crop diverted. In other words, he receives the equivalent on his diverted acreage of the profit he might have earned had he planted that acreage to cotton. At the same time he has available more acreage to produce food and feed crops for use on the farm.

The program offers insurance against plant-food loss and soil loss through erosion and leaching. Not only can soil depletion be stopped, but soil fertility can be built up. This will insure cooperating producers more productive soil and over a long period of years will tend to decrease crop failure and insure less fluctuating production, _____ said.

In addition, the producer who puts into effect a soil-conserving system of farming will lower his production costs, and at the same time give the Nation as a whole a more stable supply of foods, feeds, and fibers. Stable supplies are accompanied by stable prices, advantageous to both producers and consumers.

(more)

817-36

"To follow the cycle around", _____ said, "as the producer is insured more stable prices and a more stable income, business that is dependent upon agriculture will be insured against losses due to fluctuations in farm buying power."

_____ explained that the Agricultural Conservation Program does not offer the same degree of price insurance that was possible under the old commodity program, but that better prices might be expected for balanced cotton production.

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Washington, D. C.

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 736
(General Story)

AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DROUGHT REACHES '34 SEVERITY WITH FEED SUPPLIES UP

The present drought reached the same stage of severity by mid-July as the drought of 1934 at the same date, according to the Crop Reporting Board of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, _____, said.
(State extension official)

According to the special survey made to measure the progress of the drought, the condition of pastures, which is one of the best measures of the effect of heat and drought on plant growth, on July 15 averaged 44.7 percent, which is about half-way between the 48.9 reported on July 1, 1934 and the 39.6 reported on August 1 of that year, according to _____. In no other year has the condition on either date been reported below 56, and during the past 25 years the condition reported has averaged 81.8 percent of "normal" on July 1 and 75.6 percent on August 1.

Except for some scattered and limited areas, severe to extreme drought conditions prevailed on July 15 over practically the entire area from the Rocky Mountains in Montana to the Hudson Valley in New York, and south over western Pennsylvania, central Maryland, the Ohio Valley, the northwestern corner of Arkansas, and most of Oklahoma, _____ said.

Concerning crop yields, _____ stated that within this area there are wide variations in the yields of early crops and in supplies on hand. While pastures and all growing crops are suffering from lack of adequate rainfall, both cattle and hog numbers on July 15 were more nearly in balance with feed supplies and effective demand than on the same date in 1934. The peak in the Nation's history in number of cattle on farms was reached in January 1934 with 74,262,000. In January 1936 this had been cut by 6 million. The number of hogs, including pigs, had been reduced in January 1936 from 58,621,000 in 1934 to 42,541,000. This means, _____ explained, that in spite of the present severity of the drought, more feed is available per animal-consuming unit than in 1934.

818-36 (7-24-36)

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United States Department of Agriculture, Extension Service and
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AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 737
(Southern Region)

AAA ENCOURAGES ACREAGE INCREASE FOOD, FEED CROPS

County agent _____ announced today that all
(or State extension official)
restrictions have been raised on the planting of food and feed crops under the Agricultural Conservation Program for the Southern Region.

Provided that his diverted acreage has been devoted to soil-conserving crops and practices, a farmer now can increase his soil-depleting acreage in 1936, without penalty, if he makes this soil-depleting acreage increase in food and feed crops, _____ explained.

This modification in the program was made to encourage the production of food and feed stuffs and the growing of an ample supply of seed to meet 1937 needs on the farm, _____ said.

There are still some food and feed crops that _____
(State)
farmers can plant on land where they failed to get stands in cotton, peanuts, or tobacco.

(NOTE: Delete crop or crops not applicable in your State.) Late sorghums and millets and sweetpotatoes can still be planted, _____ said.

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819-36 (7-24-36)

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Washington, D. C.

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 738
(All Regions)

AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

SURPLUS LIVESTOCK PROBLEM ABSENT IN 1936 DROUGHT

In contrasting 1934 drought conditions with those which exist in 1936, the Secretary of Agriculture, Henry A. Wallace, calls attention to the fact that the situation in 1934 was complicated by surplus of livestock which had to be fed.

"For instance, we had the most cattle on farms in our history, but we found that these tremendous herds, untaken by society at the lowest prices in 30 years, were largely responsible for the weakened condition of our failing pastures and ranges before 1934", he says. "After the drought developed they were bawling on the ruined ranges for feed that did not exist. Eight million of them, at heavy expense to the Government, had to be removed to save the cattle industry.

"Similarly, total hog numbers which were among the largest on record and which consumers had taken only at the lowest prices in this century, were a still greater drain on the limited feed supply", Mr. Wallace emphasized. "Fortunately the little-pig program of the autumn before had relieved the situation to the extent that no hogs had to be bought by the Government in 1934, and that much feed was saved. Another fortunate circumstance was that many farmers, thanks to the Government's corn loan in the fall of 1933, had been able to retain surplus corn on their own farms. But in the drought emergency, the unusually large hog numbers proved to be a liability to the country rather than an asset.

"Up until the season of 1934, we had a big national acreage under the plow. This acreage had been plowed at the expense of corresponding acreage of range and pasture and feed crops, which are always more productive in time of drought. Fortunately again, a considerable shift back to grass and feed had already been accomplished under the adjustment programs, then in their first full year.

"There are many respectable people who would leave such things entirely with nature. I wish that those who would rely entirely on nature could have spent a few days in the West during the great drought of 1934 and have seen the helpless cattle bellowing in the dust, and the despairing farmers standing amid the ruin of their fields, the victims of nature's method of making adjustments. Man's attempt at off-setting the extremes of nature is imperfect, but it is infinitely preferable to the inequalities of nature's ruthless distribution of production.

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 739
(All Regions)

1936 AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

BALANCED FARMING HELPS AGRICULTURE IN DROUGHT BATTLE

Agriculture is much better prepared this year than in 1934 to meet the situation created by drought, according to the Secretary of Agriculture, Henry A. Wallace. He points out that the drought of 1934 found agriculture in a state of unbalance and peculiarly vulnerable to its crushing effects.

"The Government's first moves in 1934 were purely defensive and of an emergency character", said Secretary Wallace. "As soon as the worst phases of the emergency had been met, steps were undertaken by the Government to guard against the effects of future drought. In place of the unbalanced type of farming which had put agriculture at the mercy of drought in the past, the adjustment and soil-conservation programs sponsored by the Government helped to restore a balanced farming.

"The 1936 AAA conservation program represents such an attempt", continued the Secretary. "This program encourages a shift toward crops such as grasses and legumes which produce nutrients even with meager rainfall. Cultivated crops suffer more from drought than alfalfa, brome grass, wheat grass, sudan grass, millet, and the sorghums. Through increasing such acreages, individual farmers and whole communities are placed in a condition to withstand seasonal and long-continued drought much more effectively.

"The total acreage planted to wheat and corn for 1936 harvest was 170 million as compared with 169 million as an average of 1928-32. A considerable acreage of drought-resisting crops was planted in 1936 as a substitute

for oats which stand such droughts as those of 1934 and 1936 very poorly. Among the annuals, soybeans are the outstanding drought-resistants, among the biennials, sweetclover, and among the perennials, alfalfa. The acreage of these three drought-resisting crops has greatly increased during the last three years as a result of the soil-conserving programs of 1934, 1935, and 1936.

"On July 1, this year, as shown in a survey by the Crop Reporting Board of the Department of Agriculture, both cattle and hog numbers were more nearly in balance with feed supplies and with effective demand; as a consequence, the country has not been faced with the problem of liquidating several million head within a short time. Supplies of cotton and wheat and corn, while adequate, have not been so large as to drive farmers' prices to ruinous levels. The improved prices have placed farmers in a better economic position to meet an emergency. In short, the drought has found the country much better prepared than in 1934."

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 740
Western Region
Southern Region
East Central Region
North Central Region

AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

1935 HAY CROP
7 MILLION TONS
ABOVE AVERAGE

The 1936 drought emergency at this time is considerably less serious from the standpoint of feed supplies than was the 1934 emergency, says _____ (County agent or extension official) _____. The drought of 1934 followed on the heels of a lesser drought in the Central States in 1933, which had curtailed hay production and resulted in the virtual exhaustion of supplies by the spring of 1934. This situation is reversed in the present emergency. The 1935 hay crop which was 7,232,000 tons above the 1928-32 average, permitted a liberal carry-over of old crop hay supplies into the spring of 1936. Also, the spring growing season this year was favorable over a large part of the country, and in many regions, normal or better yields of first-cutting alfalfa, clover, and timothy were secured before the cessation of rainfall curtailed growth, _____ (County agent or extension official) points out.

A United States crop of 73,288,000 tons of hay was indicated for this year by conditions as of July 1. A crop of this size would be 16 percent less than the 1935 crop of 87,484,000 tons, 26 percent more than the 1934 crop of 58,372,000 tons, and 9 percent less than the 1928-32 average crop of 80,252,000 tons. These figures include wild hay as well as tame hay, but do not include sorghums for forage.

Substantial deterioration in all hay crops has taken place since July 1, and current production prospects are undoubtedly considerably below the July 1 indication. The carry-over of 13,371,000 tons of hay from the 1935 crop, however, will aid materially in off-setting the reduced production this year. The increased intensity of the drought in the North Central States since July 1, may cause some intended grain fields to be partly salvaged as grain hay, which will tend to offset the loss of production from some hay acreage which would not be cut, or which would produce very low yields per acre.

822-36 (7-24-36)

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 741
East Central Region

AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FOOD AND FEED CROP INCREASE IS ENCOURAGED

Another supplementary provision has been added to the 1936 Agricultural Conservation Program for the East Central Region with a view of further helping to relieve local shortages of food and feed crops caused by the drought, _____ (County agent or State extension official), _____, announces.

This change provides that any farmer participating in the program may grow an acreage of food and feed crops greater than the general soil-depleting base for his farm without a deduction being made from any payment which he would otherwise receive.

A provision of this kind previously was approved in the case of farms on which the County Committee finds that drought or other unfavorable weather conditions have reduced the production of food and feed crops. The present change refers to any farm in the East Central Region without regard to the effects of drought on the particular farm.

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835-36 (7-30-36)

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AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES No. 742
(SPECIAL)

GOVERNMENT BUYS WHEAT SURPLUSES: AIDS PRICE, RELIEF

Under programs designed to remove price-depressing surpluses and encourage domestic consumption of farm products, the Federal Government during the past three months has made available for relief distribution more than 659,500 barrels of flour, according to _____.
(State extension official or committeemen.)

This flour was derived from some three million bushels of wheat bought by the Government in Pacific Northwestern, Central, and North Atlantic States. Soft white and western red wheat were bought in Oregon, Washington, and Idaho, and soft red winter wheat in Indiana, Kentucky, New York, and Ohio.

_____ points out that all the purchases were made on the basis of the current market value in these areas, so as not to affect the normal market situation. The Commodities Purchase Section of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration did the buying and arranged for the milling of the wheat. The flour was turned over to the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation for relief distribution in various sections of the United States.

A large part of the mill feed which resulted from the milling of this flour has been shipped into the drought-stricken States for distribution to needy farmers for livestock feeding, _____ says.

Funds for these purchases were made available to the Secretary of Agriculture under section 32 of the amendments to the Agricultural Adjustment Act, approved last August, which provides a sum equal to 30 percent of the gross receipts from customs duties to encourage diversion of surpluses from normal channels of trade.

# # #

845-36 (7-31-36)

United States Department of Agriculture, Extension Service and
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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 743
(East Central Region)

PROGRAM CHANGES ENCOURAGE GROWTH CONSERVING CROPS

Two new provisions of the 1936 Agricultural Conservation Program attempt further to encourage the production of soil-conserving crops and to assist farmers in planting such crops on land that might otherwise be left bare this winter, _____,
(County agent or State extension official)
announced today.

One change allows farmers to qualify land to be classified as soil-conserving if seeded to soil-conserving crops up to September 1, 1936, provided no soil-depleting crop is harvested from the land in 1936. This provision will enable many farmers to increase their soil-building allowance and to earn additional soil-building payments. Also, it will afford farmers an opportunity to meet the minimum requirements for soil-conserving acreage on their farms as well as the requirements for new seedings of soil-conserving crops in 1936.

In addition, the classification of soil-conserving crops has been made to include sowed corn, when plowed or disked under and spring seeded small grain for 1936 only, including spring oats, barley, buckwheat, and grain mixtures, grown in combination with or immediately followed by a legume. Previously these crops had been classified as soil-depleting.

The other new provision permits soil-building payments to be made in connection with the seeding of perennial grasses, or growing green-manure

crops, within the limit of the soil-building allowance for the farm, on land on which there has been failure of a legume or perennial grass crop seeded earlier in the year.

For example, a producer who seeded a field to lespedeza or clover on which there was a failure, may carry out an additional practice by seeding alfalfa or turning under a green-manure crop on the same field in August and September and receive payment for both practices, within the limit of the soil-building allowance.

Mr. _____ states that these changes will assist farmers in dry areas in meeting the emergency caused by the drought. He also said that they will prove advantageous to other farmers in this region.

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No.744
(Western Region)

1936 AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS LIBRARY OF AGRICULTURE

LOSSES ON APPLES ARE HELD DUE TO MARKET PROBLEMS

Western apple growers, who have suffered direct operating losses or low returns from their crops during the past several years, are giving their attention to marketing problems, _____, says.
(County agent or State extension official)

About 80 percent of the western apples are marketed in the central and eastern regions. Packing, transportation, and other selling charges average at least $1.10 per box to Chicago and over $1.22 per box to New York. These charges, which are relatively fixed from one season to the next, must be deducted from terminal market prices or allowed for in f. o. b. purchases before any return is available to the growers, _____ points out.

In Chicago nearly 25 percent of the principal varieties sold on the auction market in March and April 1936, chiefly Jonathans, did not average over $1.10 per box. In other words, _____ says, those apples did not return to growers the picking, packing, and other marketing charges.

About one-third of the apples grown in this country are produced in the western region, which includes the Pacific and Mountain States. Production in this area has been commercialized to a much higher degree than in other areas. This is particularly true in the State of Washington, where over half of the total production of apples in the western region is grown.

847-36 (more)

One result of low prices and low total income has been neglect of many orchards and some destruction of trees. _____ points out that a burden of debt, averaging around $500 per acre, has accumulated, primarily through operating losses, in some of the highly commercialized sections.

With about 130,000 farms on which apples are grown in the Western States, individual or relatively small group action is unimportant in determining what prices growers are likely to receive for their crop, though the combined action of all commercial producers very substantially affects individual prices and returns, _____ says.

Terminal prices for western apples have been substantially affected not only by the total western shipments for fresh sale but by the volume of fresh shipment in the Eastern and Central States, the increasing competition from oranges, and changes in the level of consumer income. Orderly marketing of western apples, in order to lessen the adverse effects on growers of fluctuating production in the West and in competing areas, is advocated in order to increase prices and total returns to growers, _____ _____ says.

# # #

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WEEKLY NEWS SERIES, No. 745
Western Region
Southern Region
East Central Region
North Central Region

FEED SUPPLIES APPEAR AMPLE FOR LIVESTOCK

Despite extreme weather conditions and almost daily deterioration in feed crops of all kinds, the feed supply situation remains more favorable than at this time in 1934, according to The Federal Livestock-Feed Agency, 755 Livestock Exchange, Kansas City, Mo.

A survey of feed supplies now being conducted by the Agency is not quite completed, but information received by the Agency up to this time indicates that ample feed supplies will be available to care for requirements of livestock owners during the remainder of the summer and the winter feeding period, or until spring pasturage becomes available in 1937, provided it is properly distributed.

Listings of hay and other roughage so far have been far in excess of the demand from livestock feeders and others in the drought areas. Most of the inquiries received have been from Missouri, the Dakotas, and the drought areas of the Southeastern states. Listings of pastures for lease also were greatly in excess of requirements.

While numerous inquiries have been received by the Agency from persons desiring to purchase cattle, the listings of cattle for sale have been almost negligible. The majority of inquiries concerning purchase come from the Pacific Northwest and the Eastern States, where there is a surplus supply of feed in the form of hay and pasturage. This restricted demand for feeds of all kinds and the limited marketings and transfers of cattle from the drought areas indicates that the feed and livestock situation has not yet become tense, and that there is ample feed in most areas at least for the time being.

Any person interested in receiving information as to food, feed, or livestock conditions in this drought emergency should apply direct to the Federal Livestock-Feed Agency, Kansas City.

# # #

849-36 (7-31-36)

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NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY

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